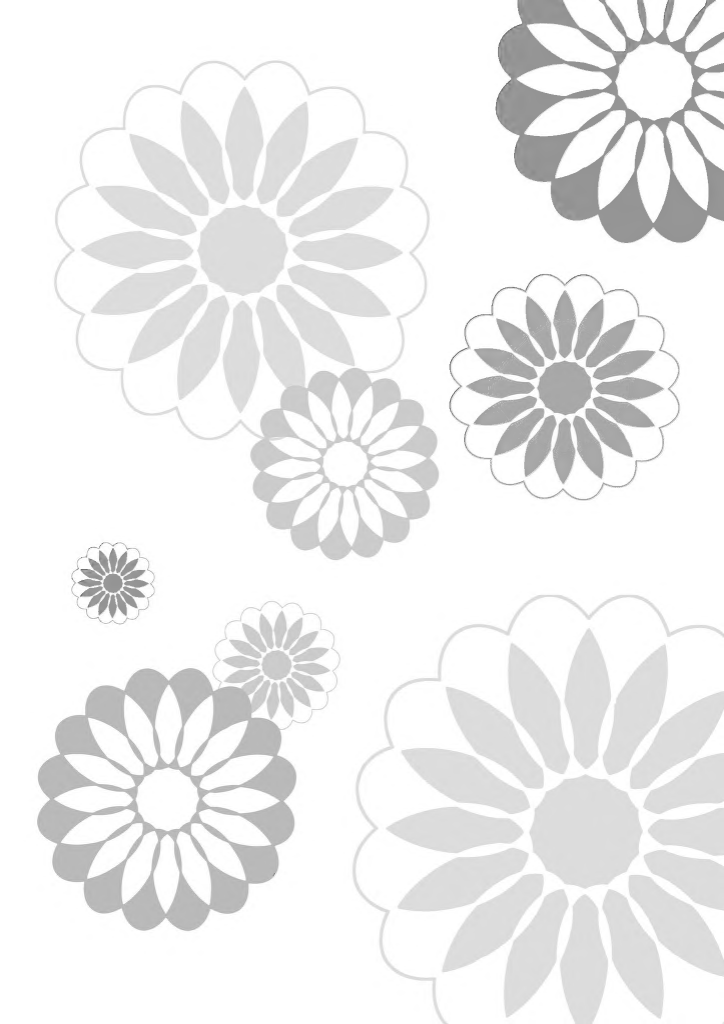
Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

15

藤島康介

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 15

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LETTERING AND TOUCHUP BY
Susie Lee AND Betty Dong
WITH Tom2K

DARK HORSE MANGA™

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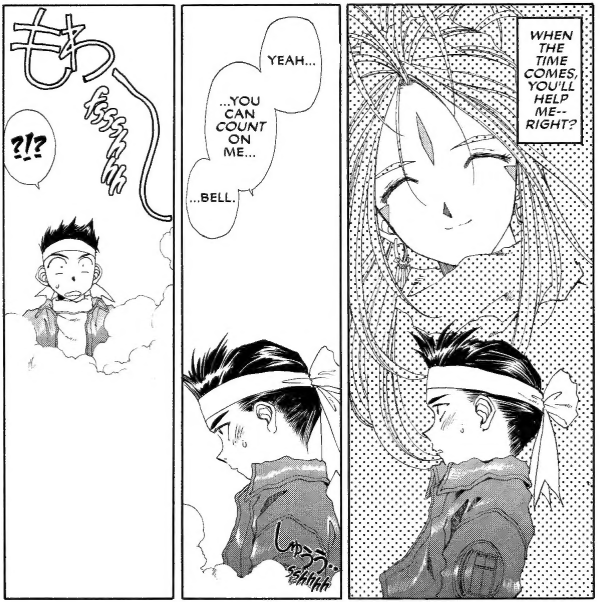
CHAPTER 83

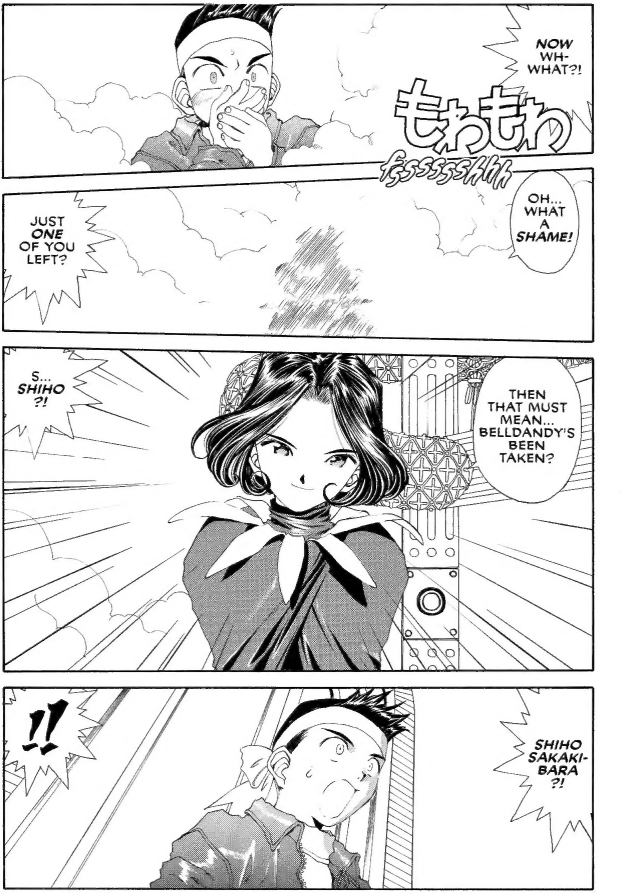
Go after Sayoko!

KEIICHI!
KEIICHI!
KEIICHI, DARLING!
HONEY!
GET AWAY !!
DEAR!
YAIEE!

WHAM
SLAM

haa
hahh
...!


もわ
?!?
YEAH...
...YOU CAN COUNT ON ME...
...BELL.
しゅう...
sshhh
WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU'LL HELP ME-- RIGHT?

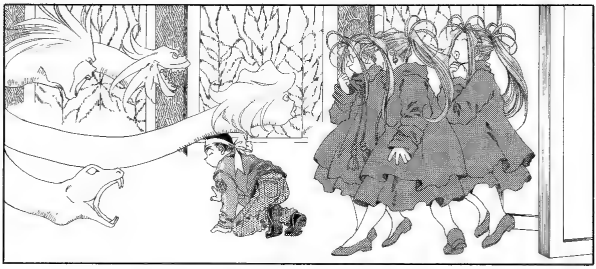

NOW WH-WHAT?!
もわもわ
fgsssssshh
OH... WHAT A SHAME!
JUST ONE OF YOU LEFT?
S... SHIHO ?!
THEN THAT MUST MEAN... BELLDANDY'S BEEN TAKEN?
!!
SHIHO SAKAKI-BARA ?!

YES, IT'S HER.
YOU KNOW, KEIICHI, THANKS TO YOU I'VE MADE *LOTS* OF NEW FRIENDS IN THE SPIRIT WORLD.
BUT... I'M A *LITTLE* SAD.
HASE-GAWA!

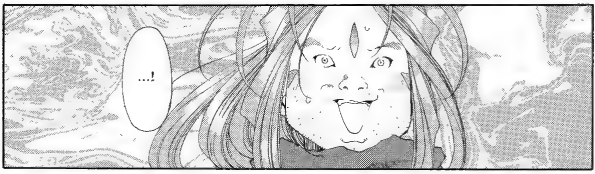
I REALLY WANTED TO PLAY WITH YOU AND BELL-DANDY...
...I WAS SO LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.
AUGH!

LEMME OUT!!
KCHAK
バコン
YARRGH!
KEI-CHAAAN...
バーン
SLAM

BAM BAM
...?
LIKE FUN YOU ARE!
IT'S ME, KEIICHI! YOUR SWEETIE!
BAM BAM
I'M SO FULL OF LOVE--
FWHAM



...?


...!

Hmm... The Master saith...
The "Belldandy"... Dost thou remember how 'twas again we were to know it?

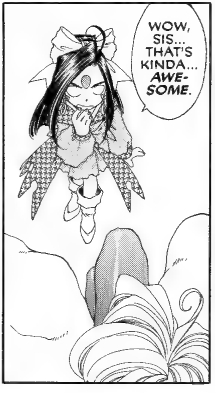
H-HI?
ER... UH...
...
Aye, and hair that doth spring forth as a flower.
...It hath a ◇ on its forehead, and a ▽ on its cheeks.
YAIEE!
あぉ〜ん wOOOO!
...!
ぴゅ!!! ーっ FSH!!!

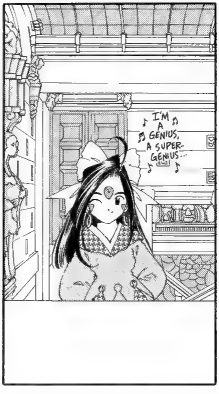
...STOP!! THOSE GUYS AREN'T THE REAL BELL-DANDY!
OH...
OH...
EEEK!
WHAM
KRASH
MOMMY!
KYAAA!

HASE-GAWA!
HEY!
HEY!
OH!
WHA?
HUH ...?
MEAN-WHILE...

HEH, HEH...

YEAH, IT IS. SO... HOW'D YOU DO?


WOW, SIS... THAT'S KINDA... AWE-SOME.


♪ I'M A GENIUS, A SUPER-GENIUS... ♪

しゅうう…
ラ…ラララ…
HEE HEE HEE!
HA HA HA!
WELL... SO MUCH FOR THAT.
NOW... LET'S GO CATCH UP WITH BELLDANDY AND KEIICHI!
YEAH! LET'S GO!!
WHICH WAY ARE YOU GOING?
MY WAY.

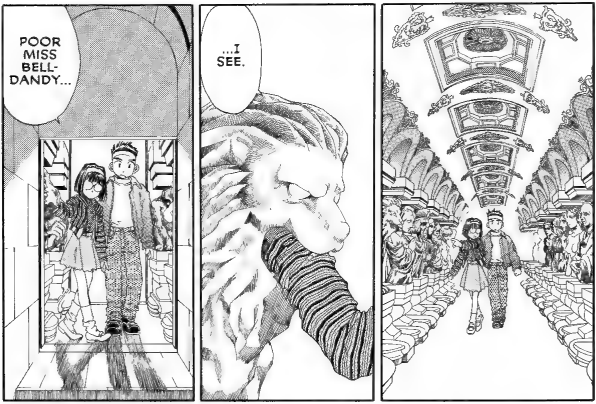
MAYBE I *WILL!*
OKAY, HAVE IT YOUR WAY, KID!
THERE'S *DANGER* THAT WAY-- MY *URD SENSE* IS *TINGLING!*
HAH! IN *THAT* CASE, IT'S PROBABLY *SAFER* THAT WAY!
OH, *YEAH?!* AND WHO FELL INTO THAT LAST TRAP ?!
WE *BOTH* DID, REMEMBER?!
YEAH, MAYBE. SURE.
WHADDYA THINK? STICK TOGETHER?
...GAWA ...?!
...WA?

HASE-GAWA!
...OH ...?
UH...
...HEY.
uh-oh...
WAHHN
OH, SEMPAI! I WAS SO SCARED!

SKULD SAVED *ME*, TOO.
BUT THEN SHIHO CAUGHT ME...
PHEW!
SEE? A RIBBON.
OH!
EH?
D-DO YOU...
WAHH! W-WAIT A SEC!
...I MIGHT HAVE TRIED TO *HURT* YOU, MORISATO-SEMPAI.
I...I MEAN... IF I WAS STILL FOLLOWING SAYOKO'S INSTRUC-TIONS...
I'M SO GLAD...
!!

YOU WERE ONE OF HER SLAVES?! THEN YOU MUST KNOW THE LAYOUT OF THE PALACE, RIGHT?!

...
...SORT OF.


POOR MISS BELL-DANDY...
...I SEE.

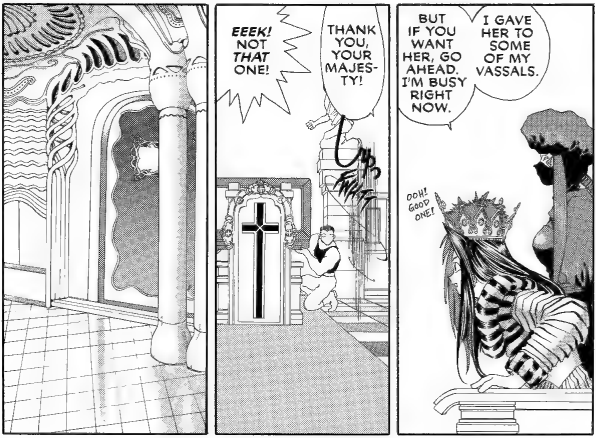
びよーん
BYOINGG
さっ
THAT
SIR... FROM HERE ON IT'S FULL OF BOOBY TRAPS.
COPY MY MOVES EXACTLY, SEMPAI!
ぽんっ
POP
スタッ
tmp
...
...
EXACTLY LIKE THAT.
JUST LIKE THAT?

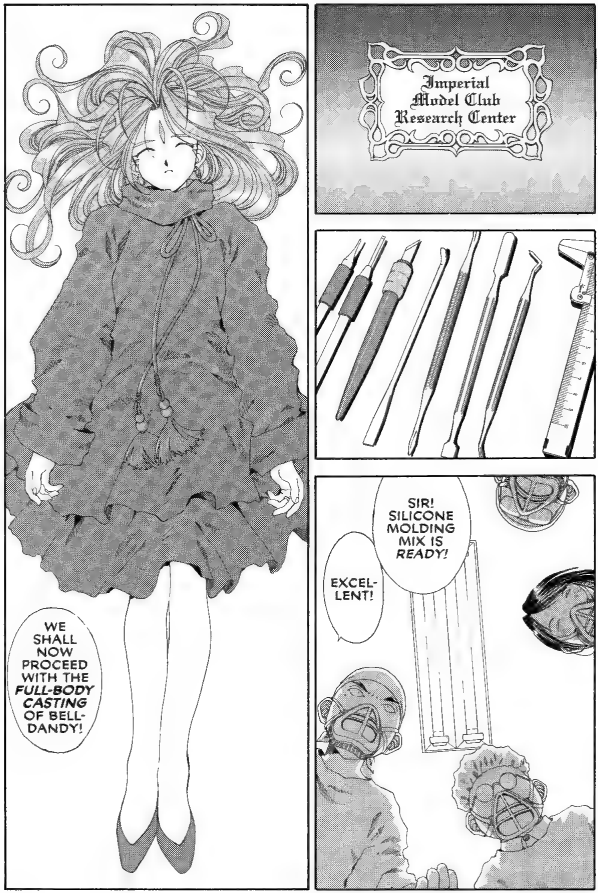
WHOA
ヒョーッ
WHSSH
THEN... HERE WE GO--
OKAY, OKAY.
SIR, I REALLY MUST INSIST YOU TAKE THIS SERIOUS-LY.
OKAY... ARM UP LIKE...
YEEOW!
びょーん
KSHAK
ガシーン
スタッ
fmp
ヒィィィィィン
FWT
FWT
FWT

NOW... JUST THIRTY-SIX MORE LEVELS TO GO.
WHA--?!
SMACK
Ai Yi Yi!!
OH, WELL DONE, SIR!
NOT TOO SHABBY, KID!
OOPS! WHOA!
AW, HE MADE IT.
HUH! NEXT'S ONE'S A REAL TOUGHIE!
LET'S SEE YOU--

AAH?!
OH, PHOOEY!
LUCK! PURE LUCK!

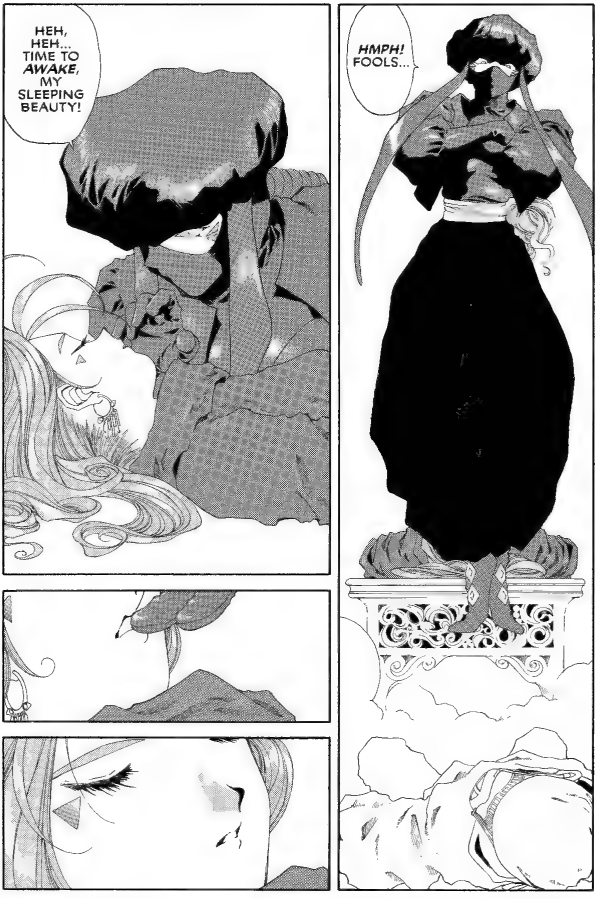
MY LADY SAYOKO...
...WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WITH THE PRISONER BELL-DANDY?


I GAVE HER TO SOME OF MY VASSALS.
BUT IF YOU WANT HER, GO AHEAD. I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW.
OOH! GOOD ONE!
THANK YOU, YOUR MAJESTY!
EEEK! NOT THAT ONE!


WE SHALL NOW PROCEED WITH THE *FULL-BODY CASTING* OF BELL-DANDY!
Imperial Model Club Research Center
SIR! SILICONE MOLDING MIX IS *READY*!
EXCEL-LENT!

...
...VARI-OUS USES.
...
THERE ARE...
BUT... DIRECTOR, SIR...WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH A LIFE-SIZE SILICONE MODEL OF MISS BELL-DANDY?
SUPER CAST
B-BUT, TO MAKE THE CAST...
INDEED.
DIRECTOR, I THINK I BEGIN TO UNDER-STAND.
...WE'D NEED TO REMOVE HER CLOTHES... AND APPLY MOLD-RELEASE COATING... BY HAND...

PERHAPS IT'S BEST TO APPLY IT IN MULTIPLE LAYERS...?
ER... ONE FOR EACH OF US?
I MUST PERFORM A PROCEDURE OF THIS DIFFICULTY...
SIR! I VOLUNTEER, SIR!
ENOUGH!
WHKOOM


HEH, HEH... TIME TO *AWAKE*, MY SLEEPING BEAUTY!
HMPH! FOOLS...

NMM...
...?
HHHH
HHHH
HHHH

B-BUT... I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START ...!
CASTLE TOUR ROUTE
BANG YOUR HEAD!
LIKE, CRANK IT UP! ALL THE WAY TO 11!!!
BELL-DANDY IN SIGHT, DUDES!!
...RIGHT NOW IT'S ALL I HAVE TO GO ON!
A TRAP...? YET, EVEN IF IT IS...

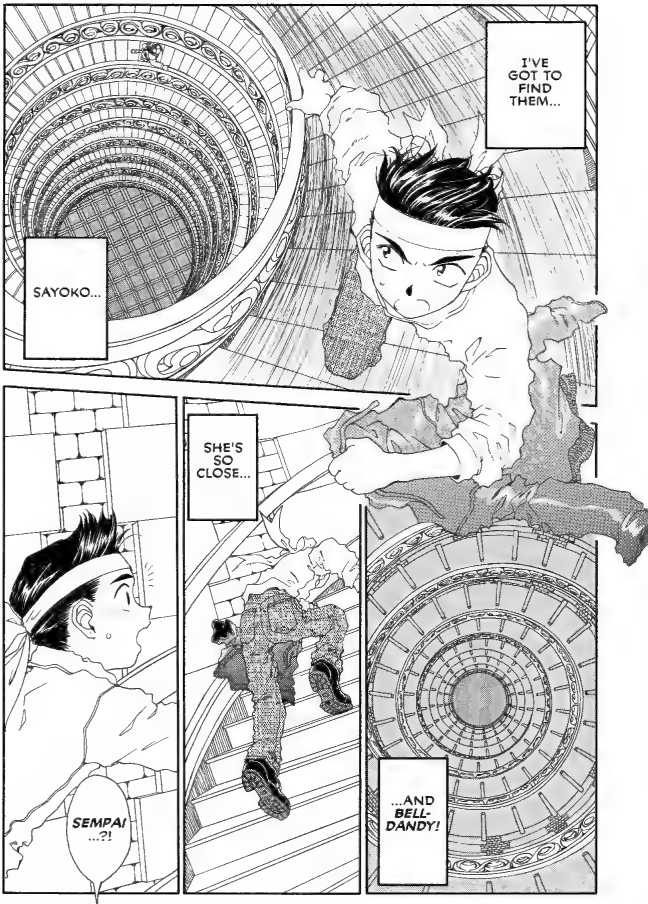
HOLY
STORM
!!

ROCK AND ROLL.
W... WHOA.
KEIICHI...
PLEASE...
...BE SAFE!
SIR...? IS SOME-THING WRONG?

RIGHT!
THIS...
SHE SAYS
NOW WE JUST HAVE TO CLIMB THIS, SIR.
UHM, NO...
BELL-DANDY'S WITH SAYOKO... AND SAYOKO'S UP THERE...
...AT THE TOP OF THESE STAIRS!
SIR! WAIT FOR ME, SIR!

CHAPTER 84

At Sayoko's Side


I'VE GOT TO FIND THEM...
SAYOKO...
SHE'S SO CLOSE...
...AND BELL-DANDY!
SEMPAI ...?!

FORGET IT, HASEGAWA... YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME.
SIR ...?
I...I CAN'T KEEP UP!
WHD
WHD
WHAT?
...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW.
WHA --!!
...AT RANDOM INTERVALS.
WELL, THIS STAIRWAY IS RIGGED TO *RETRACT ITS STEPS*...
KURRNNN

IT'S GAINING ON US, SIR!
YAEE-!!
=gasp=
=wheeze=
=huff=
EEEK! FASTER, SIR!
whoop whoop whoop
HYAH!
HRFFH!

WELL, WELL, WELL-- WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE ...?
OH, MAN... MY LEGS FEEL LIKE RUBBER SPAGHETTI!
OWWW!
OOMPH!
WHAM
YOW!
QUEEN SAYOKO TO YOU... LITTLE KEIICHI!
SAYOKO ?!

WHERE'S BELL-DANDY ?!
WELL, A MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED...
SO... YOU'RE HERE FOR BELL-DANDY.
I SEEM TO REMEMBER YOU CAN'T SWIM... YES?
HO, HO, HO! DO BE CAREFUL!
WAAH!
WHOA WHOA WHOA!!

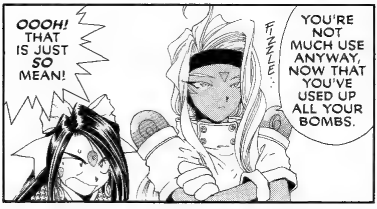
IF YOU PLEDGE UNDYING FEALTY TO ME!
NOT A CHANCE, SAYOKO! NOW-- WHERE'S BELLDANDY ?!
NO, DEAR. YOU WILL PLEDGE.
THAT RIBBON OF YOURS IS BLOCKING MY MIND-FORCE WAVES... IS IT NOT?
S-SO...
SO WHAT IF IT DOES?!
UH-OH! SHE KNOWS OUR SECRET!
NO WAY YOU'LL GET ME TO TAKE IT OFF!

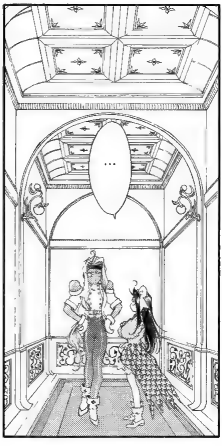
...IT'S BEST TO SERVE OUR LADY SAYOKO, IN ETERNAL HAPPINESS.
I'M SORRY, SIR, BUT...
!!
BUT I DON'T NEED YOU TO DO IT *VOLUNTARILY*, DO I... ***HASEGAWA?***
OH, YES, THAT'S PROBABLY TRUE.
CAN'T YOU SEE THE JOY THAT FILLS ME...?
YES?

I'VE BEEN HAD !!
A TRAP!
なっガッ
WAIT A SEC... HASEGAWA IS NO MATCH FOR ME! I'LL JUST--
DON'T DO IT!
N-NO!! WAIT!
...YOU SHOULD BE. YOU CARRIED ME UP ALL THOSE STAIRS...
YOU SEEM AWFULLY TIRED, SIR. BUT THEN AGAIN...
OOF!

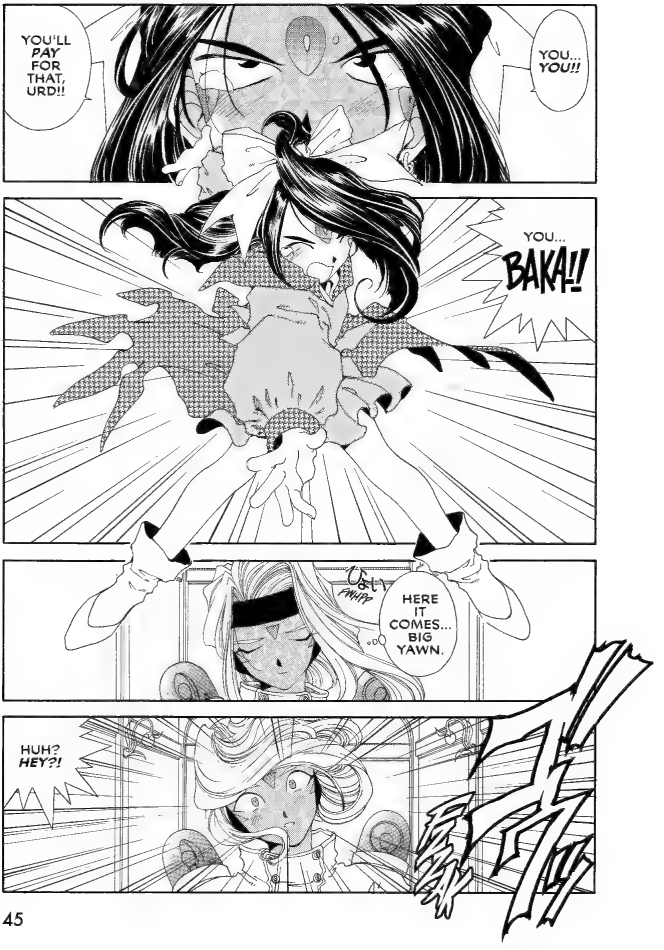
UH-HUH. AND WHO DIDN'T LISTEN THAT TIME I SAID WE SHOULD GO *RIGHT?!*
I *TOLD* YOU WE SHOULD HAVE TURNED *LEFT!*

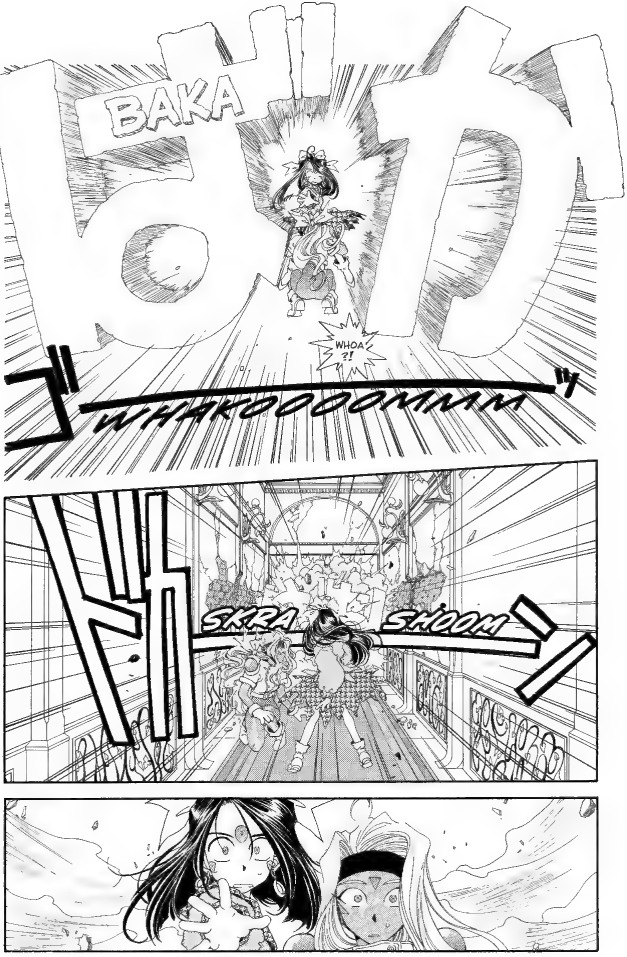
うわぁぁーっ
AAUGH!


OOOH! THAT IS JUST *SO* MEAN!
FIZZLE.
YOU'RE NOT MUCH USE ANYWAY, NOW THAT YOU'VE USED UP ALL YOUR BOMBS.


...

MORE LIKE... THIS.
I CAN DO *BIG STUFF* EVEN *WITHOUT* BOMBS!


YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT, URD!!
YOU... YOU!!
YOU... BAKA!!
HERE IT COMES... BIG YAWN.
HUH? HEY?!


BAKA
BAKA
WHOA ?!
ゴ WHAROOOOMMMM ッ
ドカ SKRA SHOOM ッ

Spark of the Firefly!
ポ…
pff
COOL! GEE...YOU THINK I'VE GOTTEN STRONGER?
HOLD ON THERE.
キン
SLANG
SLANG
SLANG

HMM. I THOUGHT THAT MIGHT HAPPEN.
ARE YOU CRAZY ?!
THIS CASTLE IS REALLY BADLY MADE!
No, dummy
...OUR POWERS ARE BEING BOOSTED !!
IF EVEN AN ELEMENTARY SPELL LIKE THAT IS SO DESTRUCTIVE...
...THEN IT MUST MEAN...
THERE MUST BE A MAGICAL AMPLIFIER NEARBY...
HEY, URD! URD!
WELL, WELL!

VRNN
VRNN
VRNN
KEI-
ICHI!
THIS
WAY

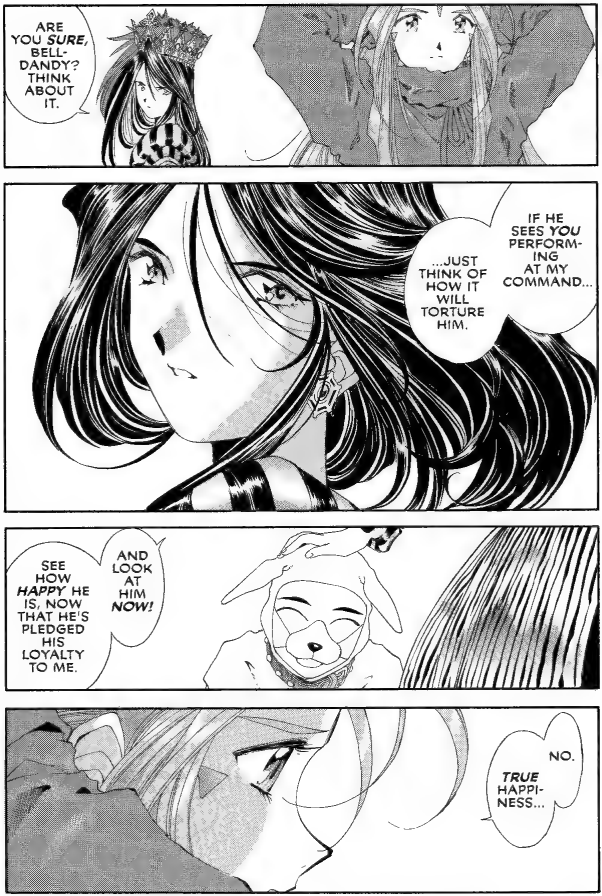
スタッ
ドン

ARF!
すん
SHAKE!
...OH, IS THAT YOU, BELL-DANDY?
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

KEIICHI, FETCH!
ARFF! WUFF!
BACK-FLIP!
SIT!
GET READY...
WELL ...?
NICELY TRAINED, DON'T YOU THINK?

...AS LONG AS HE AGREES TO GO WILLINGLY!
VERY WELL... YOU'RE WELCOME TO TAKE HIM HOME WITH YOU...
HMPH! YOU ACT LIKE I'VE FORCED HIM TO DO THIS!
HOW RUDE!
HOW AWFUL!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY POOR KEIICHI?!
FWHSSS
SSSSHH

KEIICHI ...?
LET'S GO BACK HOME TOGETHER, WITH URD AND SKULD... OKAY?
GRRR!
TOO BAD.
YOU SEE... I'VE ALREADY TAKEN HIS RIBBON.


ARE YOU *SURE*, BELL-DANDY? THINK ABOUT IT.
IF HE SEES *YOU* PERFORMING AT MY COMMAND...
...JUST THINK OF HOW IT WILL TORTURE HIM.
SEE HOW *HAPPY* HE IS, NOW THAT HE'S PLEDGED HIS LOYALTY TO ME.
AND LOOK AT HIM *NOW!*
NO.
TRUE HAPPINESS...

IT CANNOT BE GIVEN EVEN AS A GIFT.
CAN ONLY COME FROM WITHIN
...EVEN THOUGH YOU MAY FEEL SORROW.
TO FEEL AS YOU WISH.

MY DEAREST KEIICHI...
...THAN A HEART FILLED WITH EMPTY JOY.
...IS WORTH *INFINITELY* MORE...
I KNOW YOU WILL...
...YOU'LL UNDER-STAND.

HOW SHALL I SERVE YOU, MY LADY SAYOKO?
...
YOU *CHOOSE* TO BE MY *SLAVE*?!
HO HO HO! *SO!!*
MY LADY!
AS YOU COM-MAND...
THEN... *KNEEL* BEFORE ME!

DO SOME MAGIC TRICKS!
THESE TWO GUYS WALK INTO A BAR...
NOW TELL ME A FUNNY STORY!
DANCE FOR ME, BELL-DANDY!
SCRUB THE FLOOR!
NOW MASSAGE MY SHOULDERS!
BALANCE YOUR SHOES ON YOUR HEAD!
BUNNY HOP AROUND MY THRONE!
BORRR-ING.
SEVERELY
...

OKAY, THAT'S IT.
FINISHED! OVER! DAS ENDE!
ALL RIGHT, EVERY-BODY!
PARTY'S OVER! GO HOME!
OH, WELL...
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THIS WOULD BE POINT-LESS.
I'M JUST GOING TO HAVE TO BEAT YOU ALL BY MYSELF!!

BELL-DANDY ...?
YOU CAN GO, TOO.
?!?
AND TAKE K--
SHAME ON YOU, SAYOKO!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT MY PERMIS-SION!

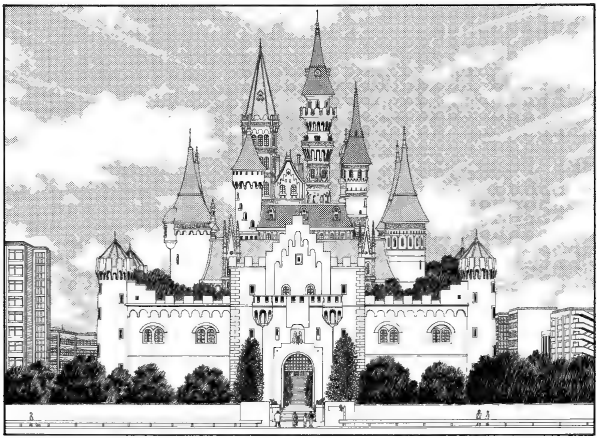
WE HAVE A CONTRACT, YOU AND I...
...AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT!

CHAPTER 85

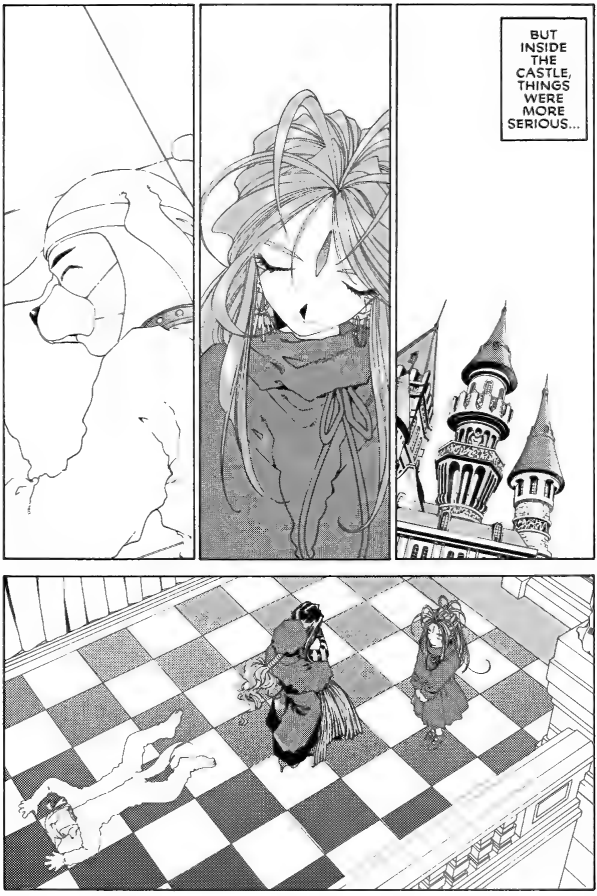
Back Where You Belong

...?

WHAT THE HECK ...?



LAST YEAR THEY PUT A BUS ON THE ROOF.
sigh PROBABLY JUST THE ENGINEERING STUDENTS GOOFING AROUND AGAIN.
IMPRESSIVE!
HOLY COW!! WHAT TH--?!
?
?
"NEKOMI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY" ...UH- HUH.
...
RIGHT, THEN.
IT SEEMED YEARS OF STUDENT PRANKS HAD RENDERED THE SLEEPY TOWN OF NEKOMI... SHOCK PROOF.
...NO SCHOOL-- NO CLASSES!
I SEE NOTHING, I KNOW NOTHING, EXCEPT...
しゃあああ! shaaa


BUT INSIDE THE CASTLE, THINGS WERE MORE SERIOUS...

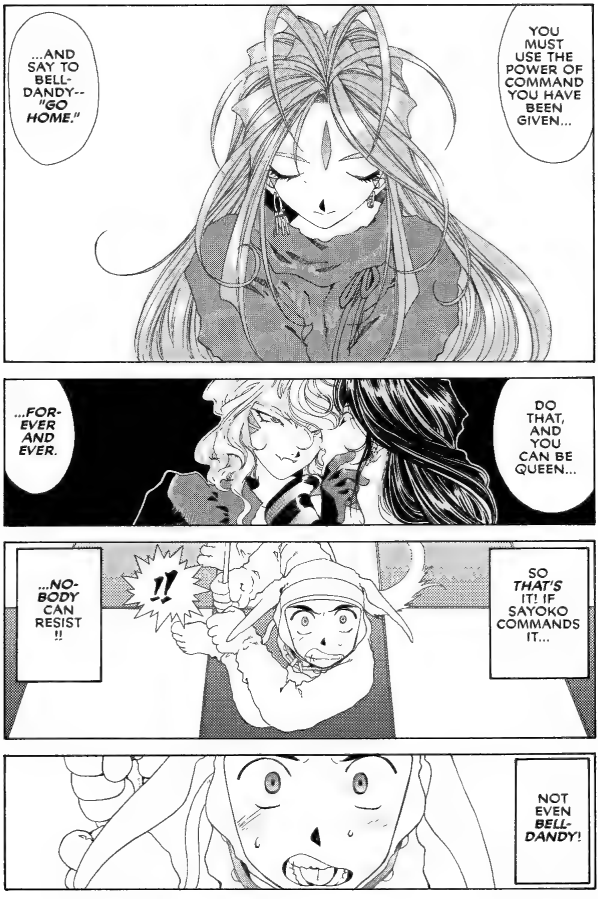
YOU DARE DO SUCH A THING...
...AND VIOLATE OUR *AGREEMENT* ...?

HAH ...?!
WH-WHAT IN TH--?!
AUGH!
NNGHH
...HERE ...?? BELL ...?
BELL-DANDY! I'M...
!

IT'S GONE !!
OH, NO! HER RIBBON!
THEN... THIS MUST BE IT ON MY HEAD!
NO.
FINK
HANG ON A SEC, BELL... I'LL PUT IT BACK ON--

FWAM
NNGG!
WHOO
BACK OFF, KID.
THIS IS THE PART I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!!

NOW... SAYOKO... IF YOU WANT TO BE QUEEN FOR *MORE* THAN A DAY...
?!?
H-HEY?! *MARA* ?!
CHK
...THERE'S SOMETHING YOU NEED TO DO.
JUST ONE *TINY* THING THAT YOU MUST SAY.

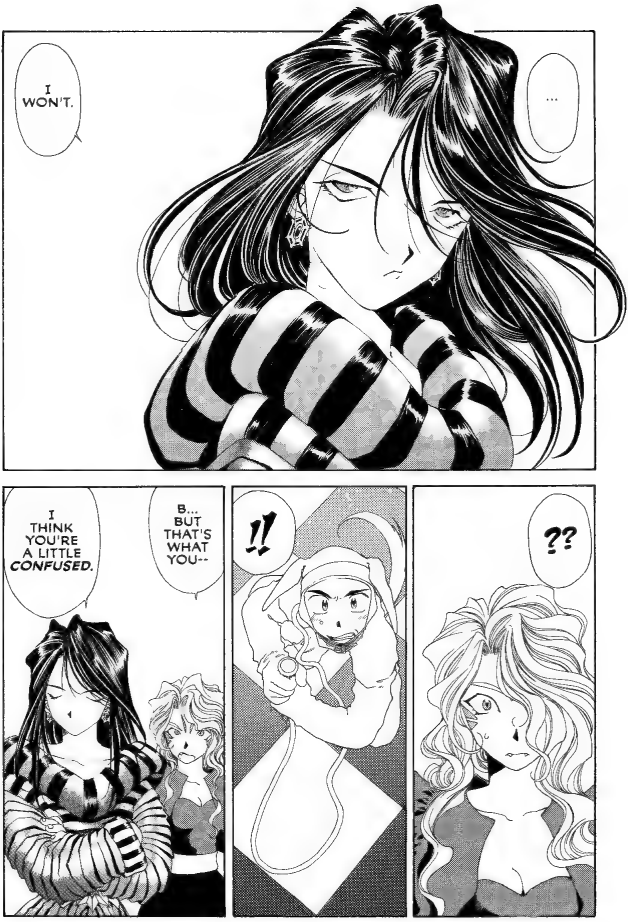

...AND SAY TO BELL-DANDY-- "GO HOME."
YOU MUST USE THE POWER OF COMMAND YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN...
...FOR-EVER AND EVER.
DO THAT, AND YOU CAN BE QUEEN...
...NO-BODY CAN RESIST !!
!!
SO THAT'S IT! IF SAYOKO COMMANDS IT...
NOT EVEN BELL-DANDY!

SAYOKO, NO!! DON'T DO IT!!!
MEAN-WHILE, BACK WITH URD AND SKULD...
HEH, HEH, HEH!
YOU ARE SCRAP, PAL! SKULD! BLAST IT!
UM... URD... YOU FORGOT. NO MORE BOMBS.
HMPH! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SKULD, SKULD, SKULD... USE YOUR HEAD, PUH-LEEZE?
THINK-- WHAT DOES THIS MACHINE DO...?
OH. DUH ...!

LIGHT-NING SPARK !!
YOU BIG JUNK HEAP!
NOW I GET IT!
OKAY! ONE... TWO...
JUNK
HEAP

ドドドド
FSSHHH
シュウウウ…

A MIND-FORCE DEFENSE SYSTEM ...?
GEEZ... DIDN'T EVEN SCRATCH IT.
NO MORE MISS NICE GODDESS!
SMAK
ALL RIGHT! NOW IT'S GETTING INTERESTING!
Y-YOU PIECE OF... DOO-DOO!
G-GOSH... GEE... UM... HOW ABOUT...
COME ON, SKULD-- YOU GOTTA TRY SOMETHING HARSHER!!
ULTRA URD BOLT, STRIKE !!
OKAY, SAYOKO... SAY IT.
...SAY IT.
BACK WITH BELL-DANDY AND KEIICHI...

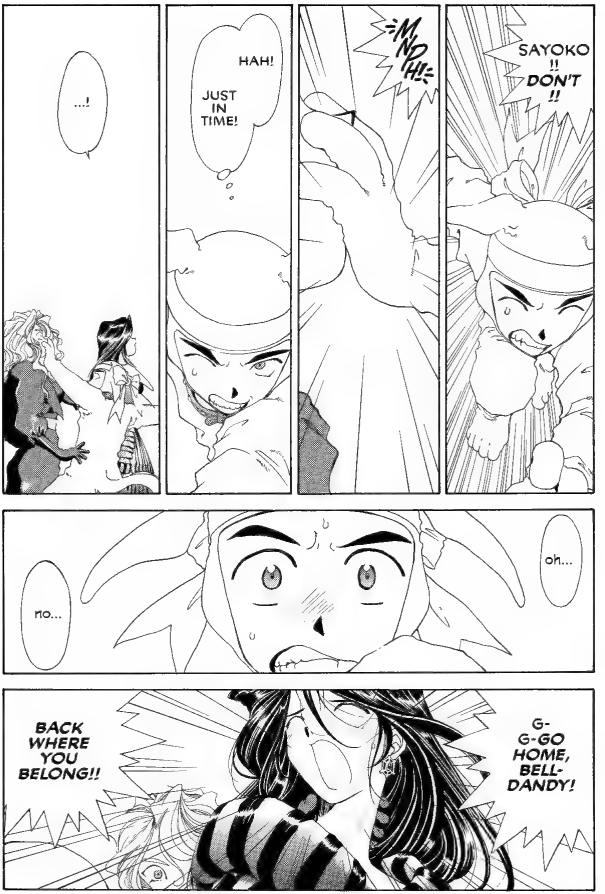

I WON'T.
...
I THINK YOU'RE A LITTLE *CONFUSED.*
B... BUT THAT'S WHAT YOU--
!!
??

WHAT I WANT...
...IS TO DEFEAT BELL-DANDY.
I WANT TO SEE HER CRUSHED, SPIRIT BROKEN... WEEPING AT HER FAILURE.
I DON'T WANT HER TO GO AWAY-- I WANT HER AROUND... SO THAT I CAN GLOAT!!

SAYO-KO...!
...
HMM.
I SEE.
STILL... A CONTRACT IS A CONTRACT !!
...AM NOW DULY EMPOWERED BY THIS BREACH OF CONTRACT...
AND I, MARA, DEMON FIRST-CLASS...
Pat
Pat

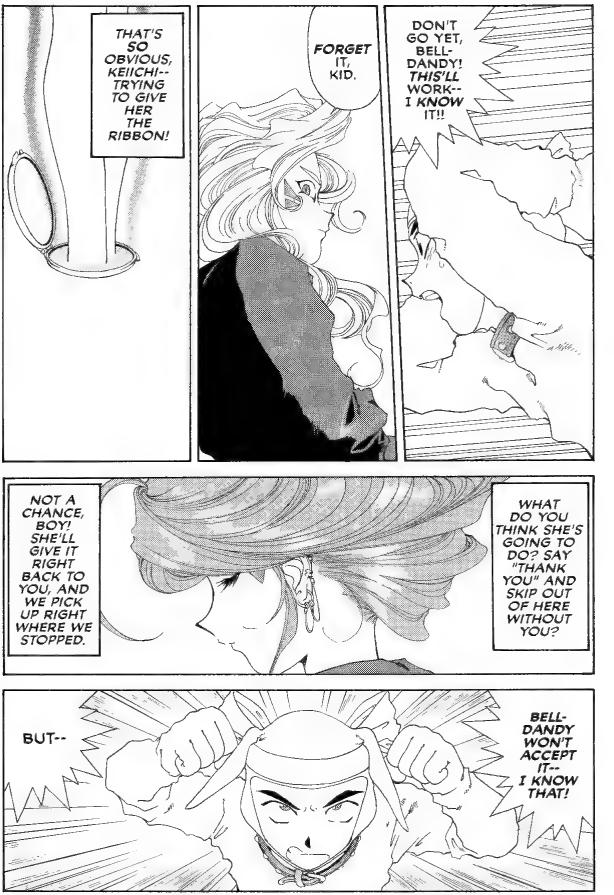
...TO EMPLOY *FORCE* IN THE EXECU-TION THEREOF !!
FFWK
B... B...
BELL... D-DANDY
I... CAN'T STOP MYSELF !!
YES, MY LADY ...?
RRNGH!

NO! I DON'T!
I... I... ...W-WANT...
I'LL HAVE NO RIVALS! I'LL DIE OF BORE-DOM!!
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE...
SNAK
SOME-BODY... HELP ME!
RRNGH!


...!
HAH!
JUST IN TIME!
=MNDH!=
SAYOKO !! DON'T !!
no...
oh...
BACK WHERE YOU BELONG!!
G-G-GO HOME, BELL-DANDY!

AS YOU COM-MAND!
MY LADY!
RIGHT! THERE'S STILL ONE CHANCE !!
"WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU'LL HELP ME-- RIGHT?"

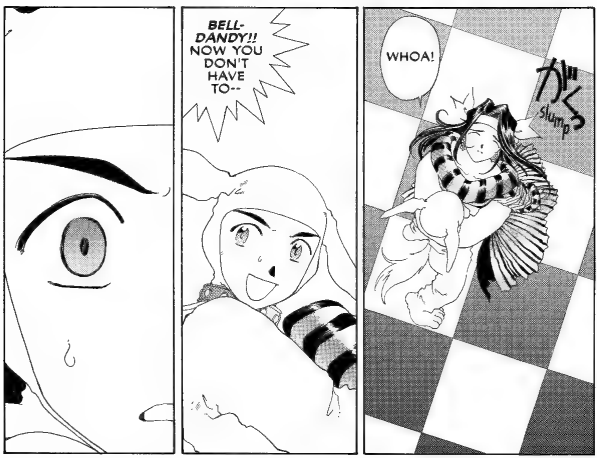
BIDS YOU FARE-WELL MY QUEEN!
YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT...

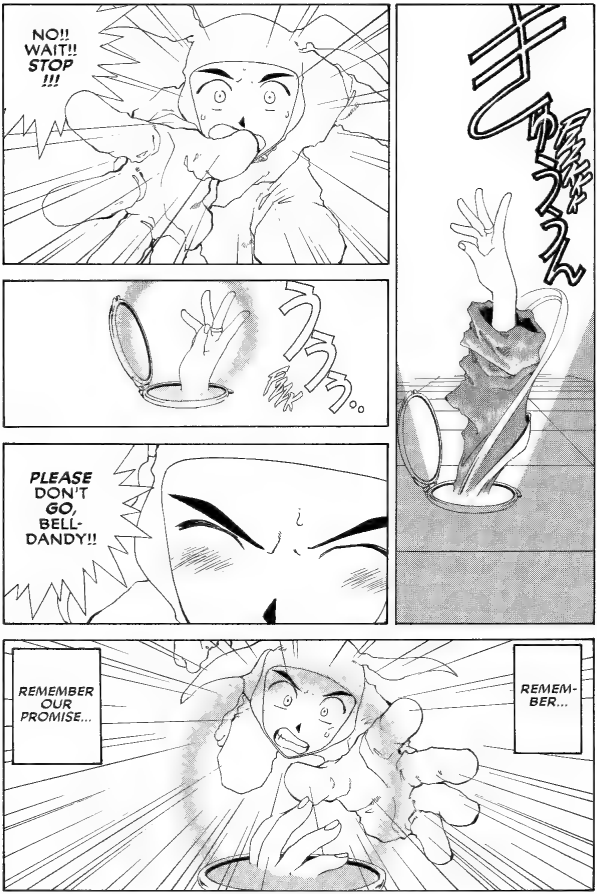

THAT'S SO OBVIOUS, KEIICHI-- TRYING TO GIVE HER THE RIBBON!
FORGET IT, KID.
DON'T GO YET, BELL-DANDY! THIS'LL WORK-- I KNOW IT!!
NOT A CHANCE, BOY! SHE'LL GIVE IT RIGHT BACK TO YOU, AND WE PICK UP RIGHT WHERE WE STOPPED.
WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE'S GOING TO DO? SAY "THANK YOU" AND SKIP OUT OF HERE WITHOUT YOU?
BUT--
BELL-DANDY WON'T ACCEPT IT-- I KNOW THAT!

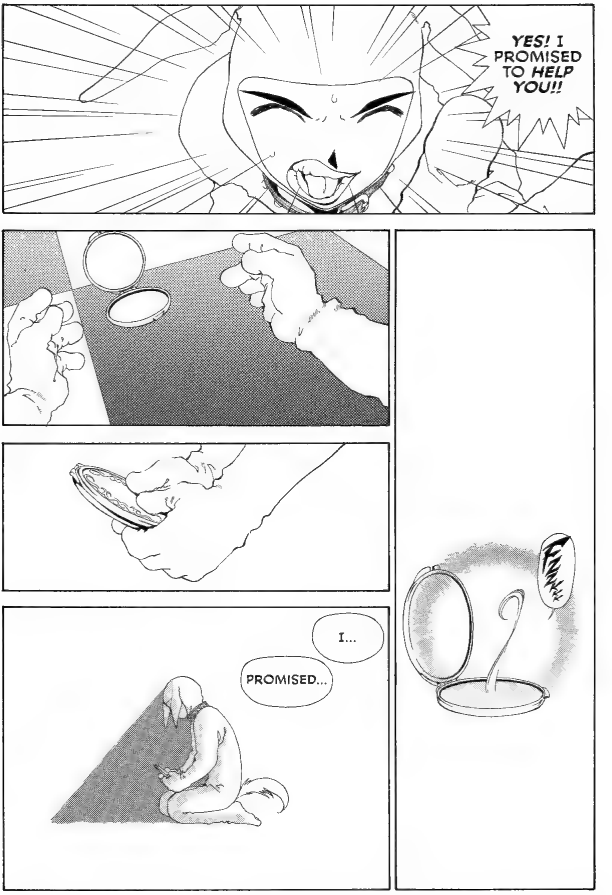
--SAYOKO WILL!!
IF THE MIND-FORCE FIELD COMES FROM SAYOKO...
...SKULD'S RIBBON WILL BLOCK THE FLOW OF FORCE!! AND THEN...
SAYOKO! I ORDER YOU TO TAKE OFF--
RMBBB
??
DAMN IT!! SO CLOSE, AND YET--
NO! NO!! I DIDN'T THINK OF THAT!

ゴオオオォ
SKRASSHOOM
WHAT TH--?!
BB
BB
GOSH, URD, I DIDN'T SEE A *THING!*
GEE, I WONDER HOW *THAT* HAPPENED? ANY IDEA, SKULD?
MAYBE.
WE, UH... SORTA *OVERDID* IT... MAYBE?
...
...

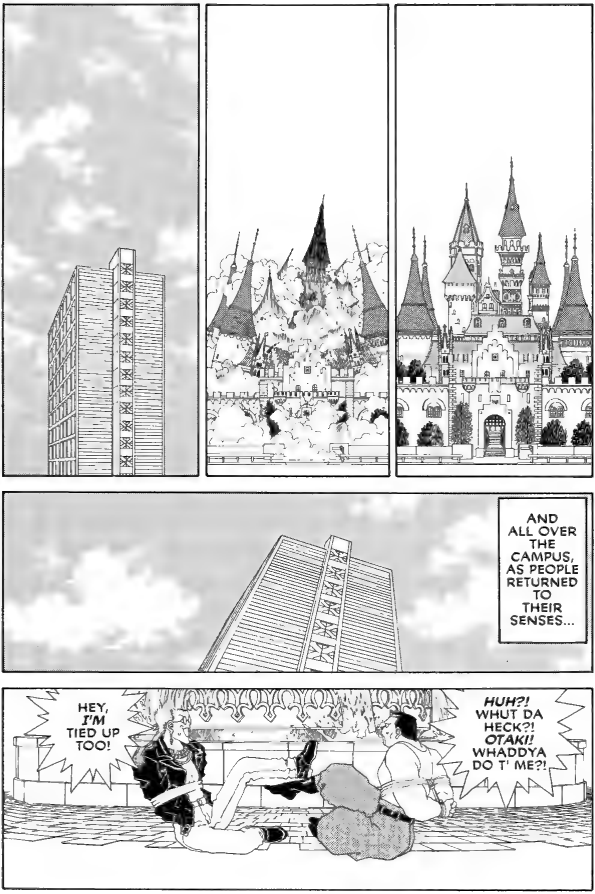
STILL... WE WEREN'T GETTING ANYWHERE, REALLY. I WONDER WHY THE MIND-FORCE FIELD SUDDENLY *CUT OFF* LIKE THAT...?

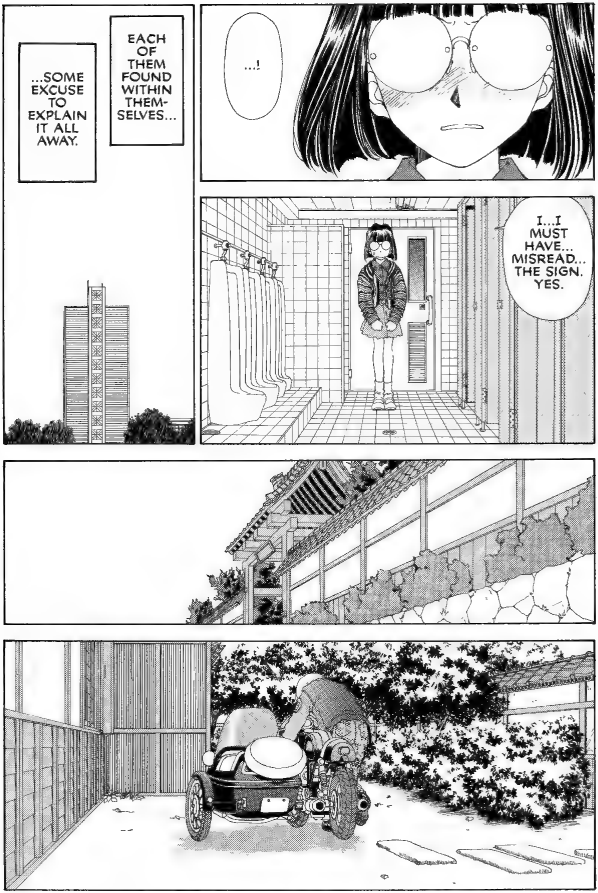

BELL-DANDY!! NOW YOU DON'T HAVE TO--
WHOA!
Slump


NO!! WAIT!! STOP !!!
PLEASE DON'T GO, BELL-DANDY!!
REMEMBER OUR PROMISE...
REMEM-BER...


YES! I PROMISED TO HELP YOU!!
I...
PROMISED...

RMBBRMBB
I... I DID IT!
I REALLY DID IT!
FINALLY! FINALLY I CAN GO HOME!!
I DEFEATED BELL-DANDY!!
WHHRRSSSHHH
HA HA HA HA HA HA


AND ALL OVER THE CAMPUS, AS PEOPLE RETURNED TO THEIR SENSES...
HEY, I'M TIED UP TOO!
HUH?! WHUT DA HECK?! OTAKI! WHADDYA DO T' ME?!

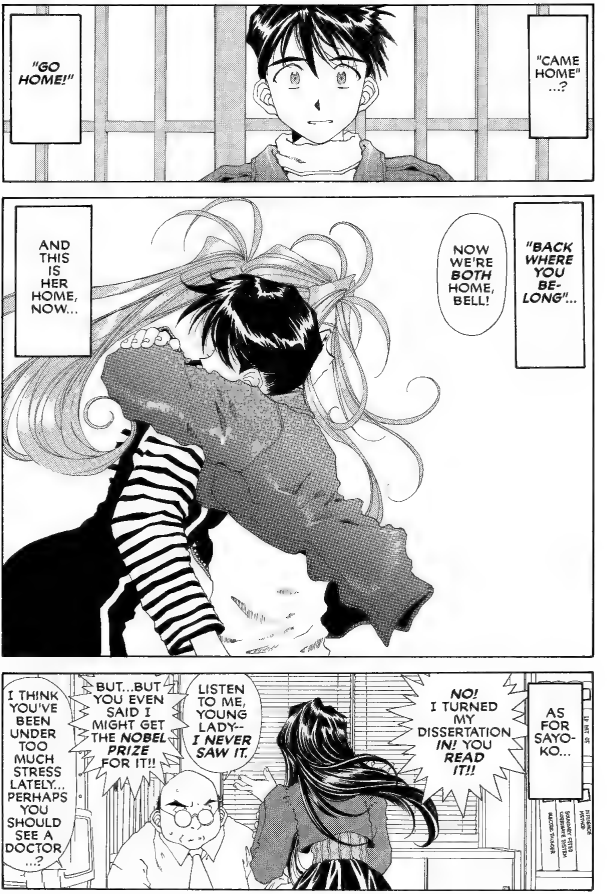

...SOME EXCUSE TO EXPLAIN IT ALL AWAY.
EACH OF THEM FOUND WITHIN THEM-SELVES...
...!
I...I MUST HAVE... MISREAD... THE SIGN. YES.

I'LL NEVER HEAR THAT...
AGAIN...
WELCOME HOME!
Ah! Welcome home, Ch

IT'S...
...

WELCOME
HOME!

I...
...?!
YOU...
HOW ...?!
I HEARD YOUR MOTORCYCLE PULL IN, SO I CAME OUT TO MEET YOU.
N... NOT THAT! I MEAN...
SO YOU'RE HOME?
WHAT KEPT YOU SO LONG? BELLDANDY CAME HOME AGES AGO!


"GO HOME!"
"CAME HOME"...?
"BACK WHERE YOU BE-LONG"...
NOW WE'RE BOTH HOME, BELL!
AND THIS IS HER HOME, NOW...
AS FOR SAYO-KO...
NO! I TURNED MY DISSERTATION IN! YOU READ IT!!
LISTEN TO ME, YOUNG LADY-- I NEVER SAW IT.
BUT...BUT YOU EVEN SAID I MIGHT GET THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR IT!!
I THINK YOU'VE BEEN UNDER TOO MUCH STRESS LATELY... PERHAPS YOU SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR...?

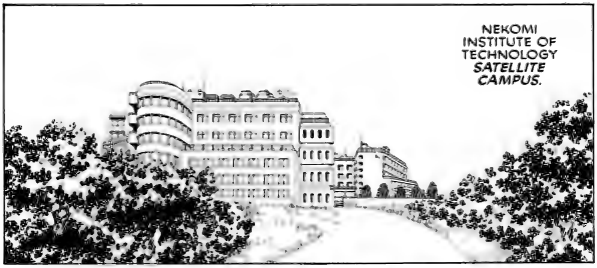
CHAPTER 86

Megumi vs. the Queen

THANKS!
HERE... MY OLD AERO-DYNAMICS 101 TEXT.
HEY, IT'S A POPULAR COURSE.
PROF. KURIHARA LECTURES ANYWAY.
HOW'D YOU KNOW I TOOK AERO-DYNAMICS, TOO...?
I FORGOT MINE AT HOME.
I HEAR IT'S AWFULLY HARD TO GET INTO THOSE.

NOPE.
WHY?
HUH? DOES HE START THE LECTURE LATER THESE DAYS?
BUT HE'S AN ENTERTAIN-ING GUY... MAKES PAPER AIRPLANES AND STUFF.
REALLY HELPS YOU LEARN!
BONGG
NO KIDDING! THIRTY STUDENTS MAX-- FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.
THANKS!
...YOU HAD TO HIT THE ROAD BY ELEVEN THIRTY OR YOU'D NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME.
WELL, BACK WHEN I TOOK IT...
BUT I'VE STILL GOT PLENTY OF TIME BEFORE...
YEAH, WELL, THAT'S STILL TRUE.

ARGH! I FORGOT TO WIND MY WATCH YESTER-DAY!
BLEW IT!!
BRAAP
DON'T WIPE OUT !!
SHE'LL BE FINE.
NO... HER BIKE LOVES HER TOO MUCH FOR THAT TO HAPPEN.

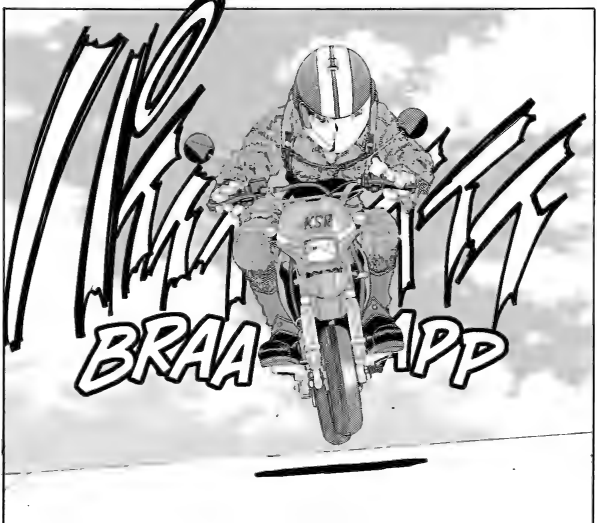


VRRR

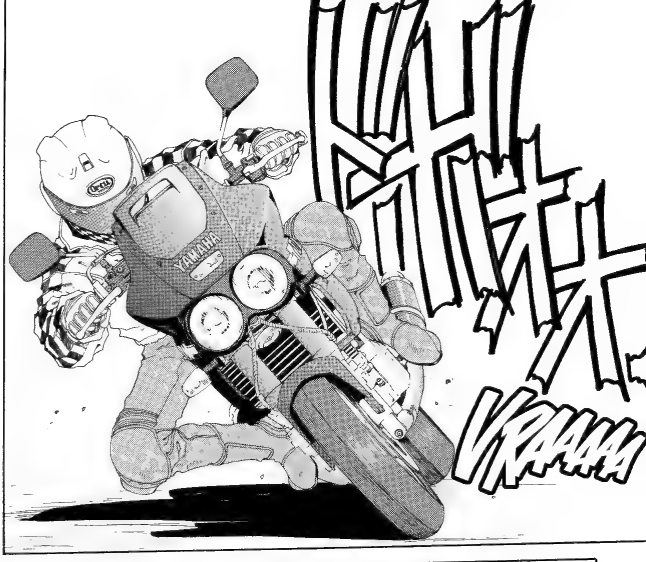
AN IMPROMPTU RACING CIRCUIT!
BRAAP
BRAAPP
1!
2!
8!
7!
...

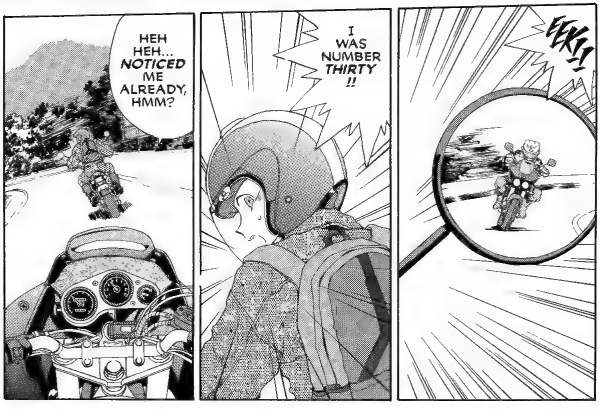
15!
16!
...
12!
11!
IF SHE'S JUST STANDING THERE, WE CAN STILL GET IN!
HEY!
IT'S THE QUEEN!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
BUT IF SHE'S ON HER BIKE... WE'RE HOSED!

28!
27!
26!
29!
...
23!
24!
Arai
HELMETS
19!
20!
ボボボ
pop pop pop


BRAA
PP
KSR

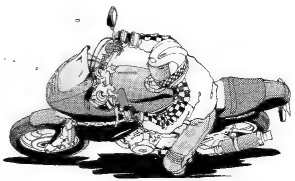
I WONDER WHAT NUMBER I AM ...?
ACK! SHE'S ALREADY ON HER BIKE!
SKREE
YAMAHA
Arai HELMETS
30!!
ホホホホ
BRAAP
BRAAP...

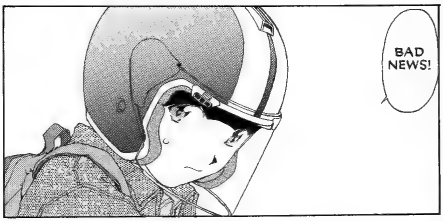

VRAAAA

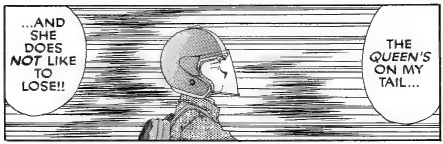

HEH HEH... NOTICED ME ALREADY, HMM?
I WAS NUMBER THIRTY !!
EEK!!

BALLAD OF THE HIGH PASS
by "The Queen."

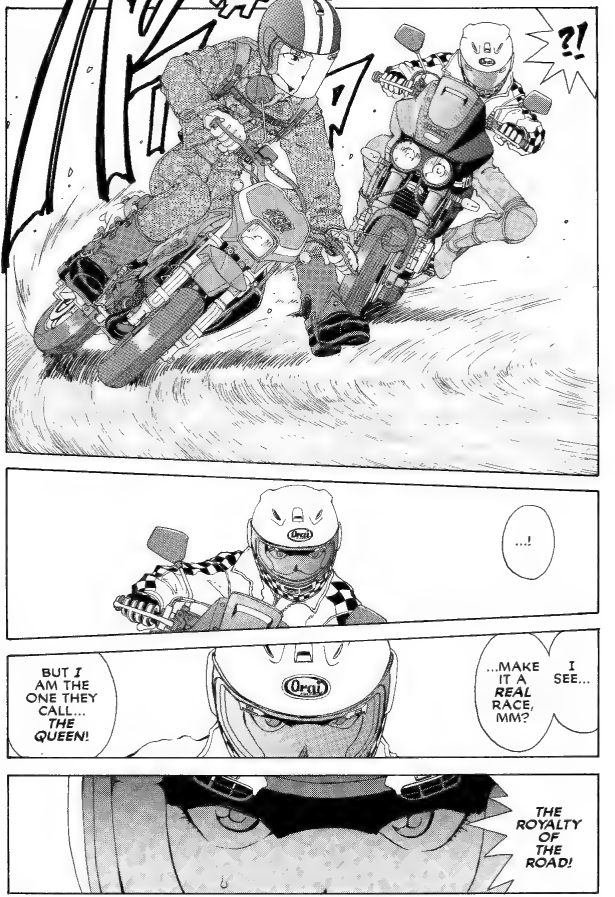
That's right:
let me leave you in my dust,
dear Number Thirty,
and take your place in class.
It's so especially sweet
when you're the last one in.
It's just a little something
I do for myself.

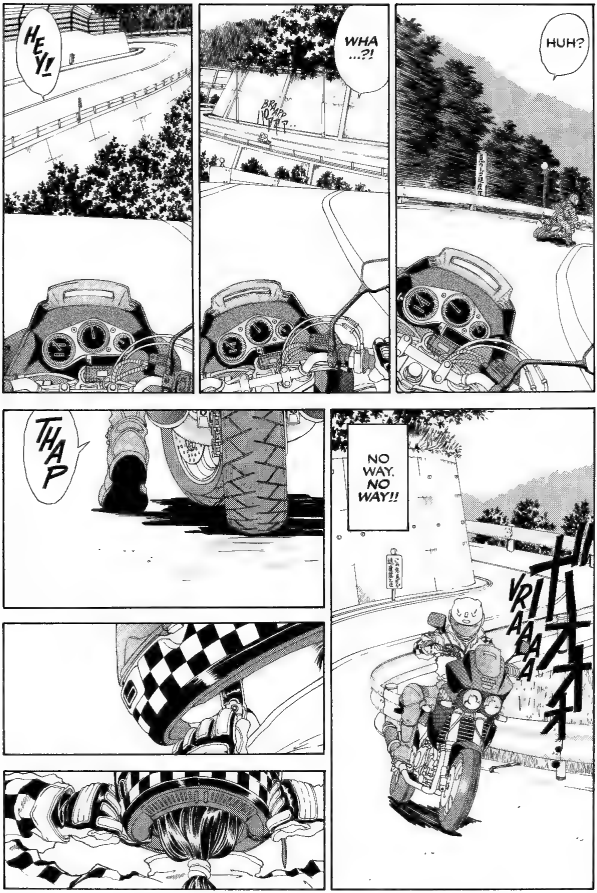






...LET'S GO FOR IT!!
SO... OLD BUDDY...
HEH, HEH!
THAP
EH?!
FWSSH
PASS ON THE INSIDE ...? YES!
HMM... LET'S SEE...
SCOOT


BRAAAAP
?!
...!
I SEE...
...MAKE IT A REAL RACE, MM?
BUT I AM THE ONE THEY CALL... THE QUEEN!
THE ROYALTY OF THE ROAD!


HEY!
WHA ...?!
HUH?
THAP
NO WAY. NO WAY!!
VRAAAAA
ホオオ

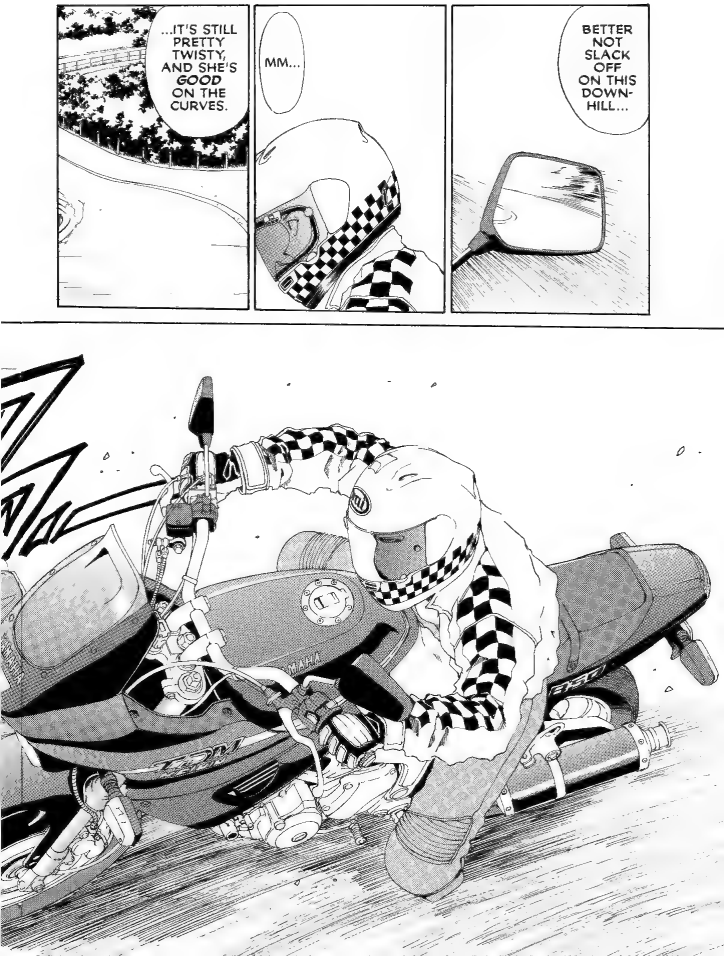
HMPH.
NEXT WEEK, GIRL...
HUH ...?
HEH, HEH.. PLENTY OF TIME!
AND SO, NEXT WEEK...
BRRAP

BUT... BUT I'M EARLY!!
KRAAAA
THE QUEEN ?!
NO WAY I'M NUMBER THIRTY AGAIN!
BRAAPP
VRAAA
AH?! SHE'S CUTTING ME OFF!!
WHOA!! WENT IN TOO DEEP!!

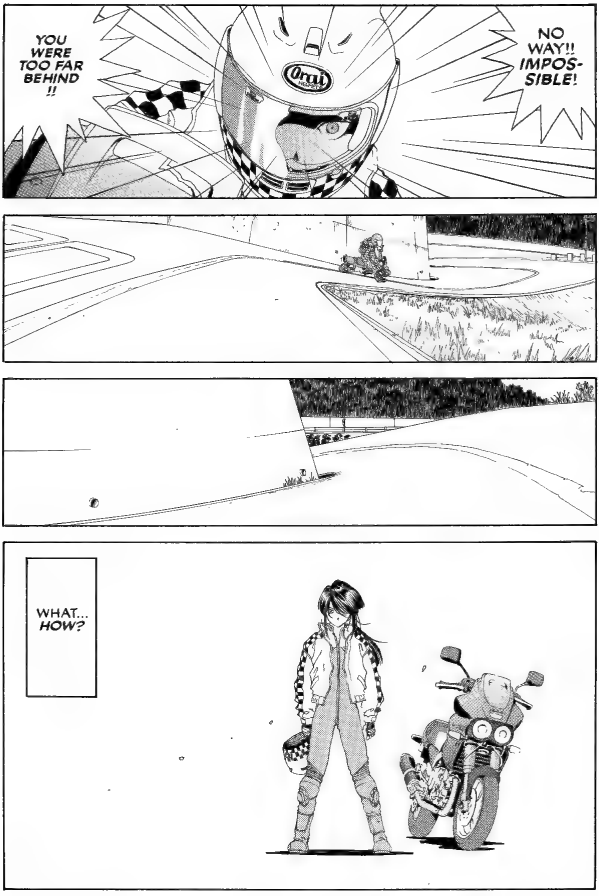
ボオオ..
VRAAA
AND AT
BRAAP
SORRY, DUDE, BUT NOBODY PASSES ME!!
uvex
VRAAAAA
ボオオオオ
VRAAAA
NO ONE'S EVER BEEN ABLE TO BLOCK ME LIKE THIS WHEN I'M GIVING IT MY BEST SHOT!
SHE'S GOOD.
AMAZINGLY GOOD!

CHAK
...BUT IT'S ALL OVER NOW.
ボルル
VRAAAA
YAMAHA
SEE YA!
VRAA
NOW THAT WE'RE ON AN UPGRADE, POWER IS ALL!
STRUGGLE ALL YOU LIKE, BUT YOU'VE JUST GOT 80 cc!
YAMAHA

THAT'S OKAY, BUDDY!
BRAPPP
BRAPPP
VROOOO

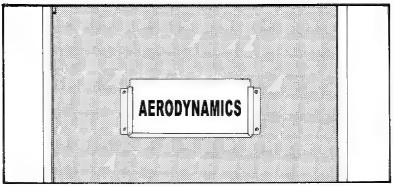

...IT'S STILL PRETTY TWISTY, AND SHE'S *GOOD* ON THE CURVES.
MM...
BETTER NOT SLACK OFF ON THIS DOWN-HILL...

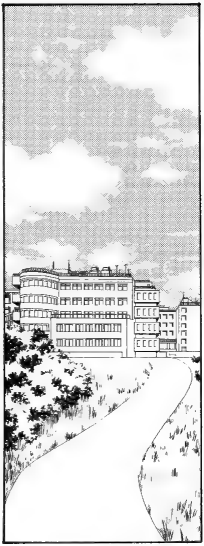
?!
..WHY TEMPT FATE?
WHY INDEED?
TEMPTING TO LET HER CATCH UP SO I CAN WHIP HER ASS AGAIN, BUT...
BRAAAAAPP

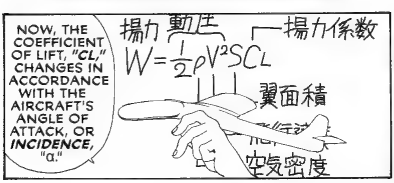

YOU WERE TOO FAR BEHIND !!
NO WAY!! IMPOS-SIBLE!
WHAT... HOW?

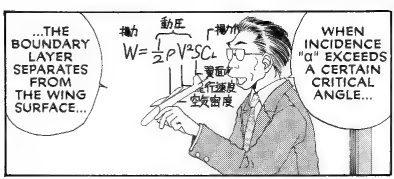
CHAPTER 87

The Secret of Speed

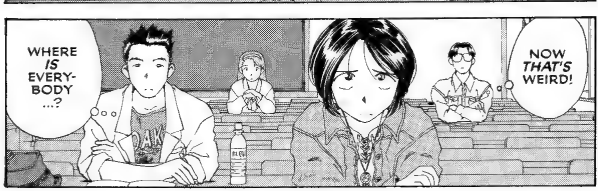

AERODYNAMICS



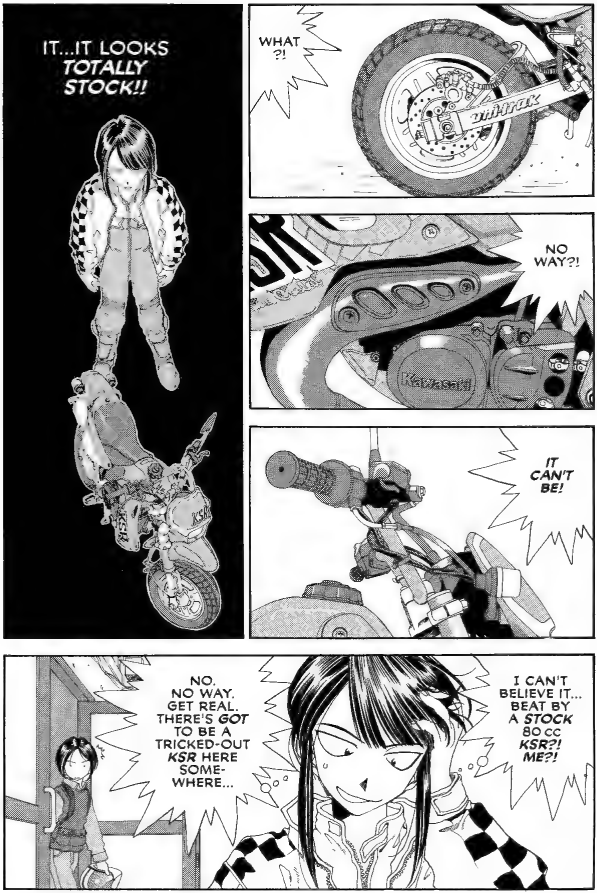

NOW, THE COEFFICIENT OF LIFT, "CL," CHANGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AIRCRAFT'S ANGLE OF ATTACK, OR INCIDENCE, "α."
揚力 動圧 揚力係数
W=1/2ρV²SCL
翼面積
空気密度

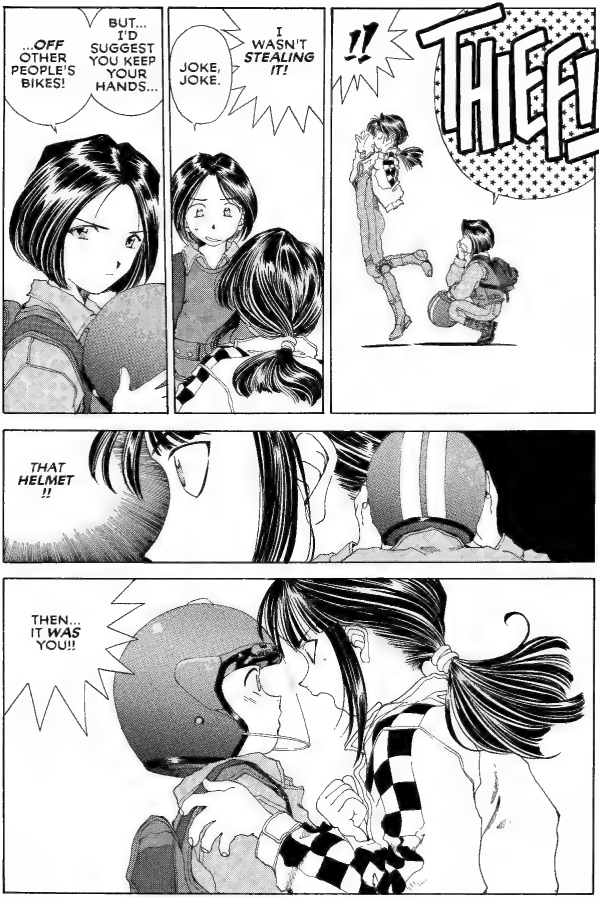

...THE BOUNDARY LAYER SEPARATES FROM THE WING SURFACE...
揚力
動圧
揚力係数
W=1/2ρV²SCL
翼面積
飛行速度
空気密度
WHEN INCIDENCE "α" EXCEEDS A CERTAIN CRITICAL ANGLE...

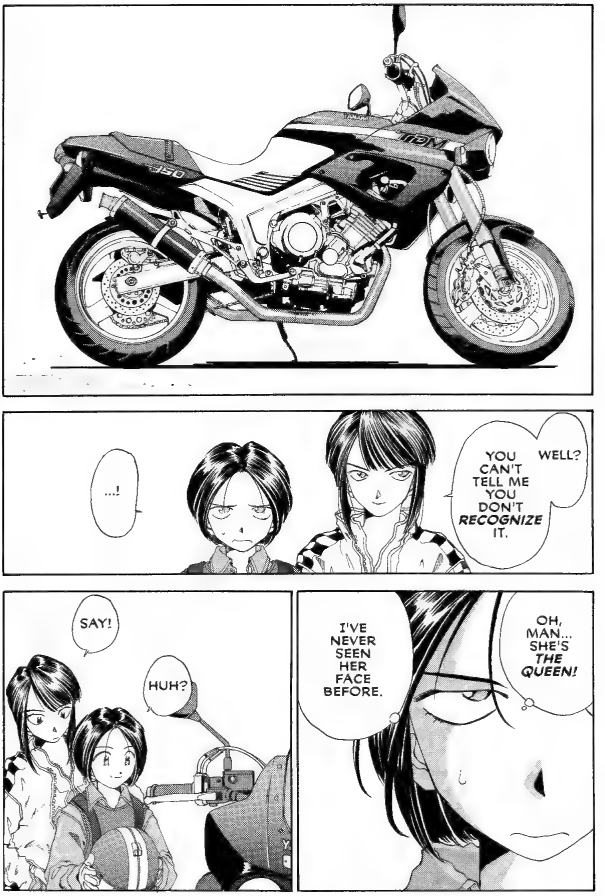
?
揚力
揚力係数
W=1/2ρV²SCL
翼面積
基準線
迎角
一様流
...MAKING THE AIRCRAFT STALL... LIKE SO!

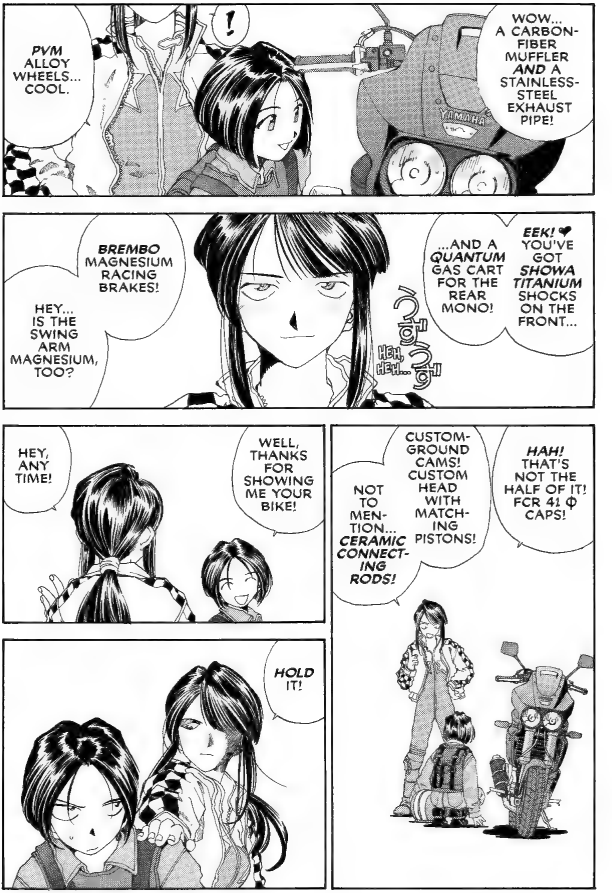

WHERE IS EVERY-BODY ...?
NOW THAT'S WEIRD!

YEAH...IF THE QUEEN *PASSED US*, THE LECTURE MUST *ALREADY* BE FULL!
IT'S HOPE-LESS.
THE REA-SON?
MEAN-WHILE, IN THE PARKING LOT...
AH-- *HERE* IT IS!
...


IT...IT LOOKS TOTALLY STOCK!!
WHAT ?!
NO WAY?!
IT CAN'T BE!
NO. NO WAY. GET REAL. THERE'S GOT TO BE A TRICKED-OUT KSR HERE SOME-WHERE...
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... BEAT BY A STOCK 80 cc KSR?! ME?!


THIEF!
!!
I WASN'T *STEALING IT!*
JOKE, JOKE.
BUT... I'D SUGGEST YOU KEEP YOUR HANDS...
...*OFF* OTHER PEOPLE'S BIKES!
THAT HELMET !!
THEN... IT *WAS* YOU!!


...!
WELL?
YOU CAN'T TELL ME YOU DON'T *RECOGNIZE* IT.
SAY!
HUH?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER FACE BEFORE.
OH, MAN... SHE'S *THE QUEEN!*


!
PVM ALLOY WHEELS... COOL.
WOW... A CARBON-FIBER MUFFLER AND A STAINLESS-STEEL EXHAUST PIPE!
YAMAHA
BREMBO MAGNESIUM RACING BRAKES!
HEY... IS THE SWING ARM MAGNESIUM, TOO?
Hey, Hey...
...AND A QUANTUM GAS CART FOR THE REAR MONO!
EEK! ❤ YOU'VE GOT SHOWA TITANIUM SHOCKS ON THE FRONT...
HEY, ANY TIME!
WELL, THANKS FOR SHOWING ME YOUR BIKE!
NOT TO MEN-TION... CERAMIC CONNECT-ING RODS!
CUSTOM-GROUND CAMS! CUSTOM HEAD WITH MATCH-ING PISTONS!
HAH! THAT'S NOT THE HALF OF IT! FCR 41 Φ CAPS!
HOLD IT!

WHAT'S YOUR BIKE'S SECRET?
TELL ME.
OH, COME ON!!
UM... THERE ISN'T REALLY MUCH TO TELL. NOTHING, IN FACT.
WELL ...? I TOLD YOU!
...
MY BIKE'S SECRET ...?!

YOU REFUSE TO *BELIEVE ME,* EH?
YOU REFUSE TO *TELL ME,* EH?
YOU LOOKED AT IT ALREADY-- YOU KNOW IT'S TOTALLY *STOCK!*
HONEST, THERE ARE *NO* SECRETS.
sigh

LET'S MEET TOMORROW, AT THE USUAL PLACE.
OH, ALL RIGHT.
...WHY YOU WILL *NEVER* WIN!
AND *THEN* I'LL TELL YOU...
SO...!
THAT'S *NOT* WHAT I MEANT!
THEN YOU *ARE* HIDING SOMETHING!

THERE'S NO DAMN SECRET !!
TELL ME YOUR SECRET! TELL ME!!
chk k
♬♪

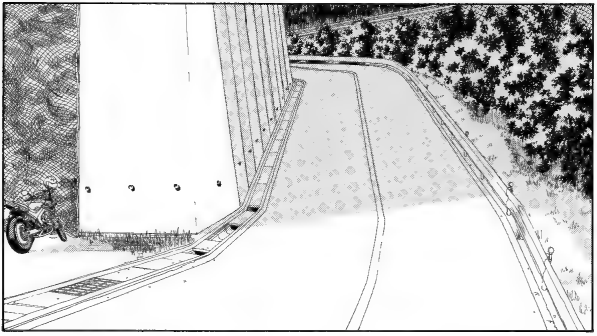
HA HA HA! NAW, NOT REALLY.
YOU REALLY TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BIKE, DON'T YOU?
MEGUMI, DEAR!
SO I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE EVERY-THING'S PERFECT. THAT'S ALL.
IT'S JUST... I RIDE IT HARD.
OKAY.

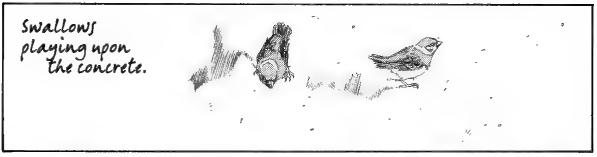
...WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
?
GEEZ... ...IS IT *THAT* OBVI-OUS?
SINCE WHEN IS IT *EVER* "SIMPLE" ...?
WELL, UM...IT'S NOT SO SIMPLE, SEE...
...YOU COME OVER AND START TINKERING IN *MY* WORK-SHOP.
heh heh heh
SIS... WHENEVER YOU *WANT* SOMETHING FROM ME...
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT?

ME...? N-NO WAY!
UH...
chuckle
OOPS.
I HEARD THAT!!
HERE'S THE DEAL...
OKAY ...!
YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT YOUR SISTER... DON'T YOU.
KEIICHI ...?
WHAT ?!?

CHAPTER 88

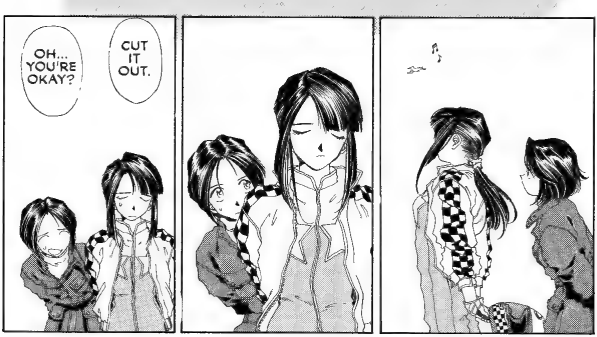
Two Hearts Beat as One




Swallows
playing upon
the concrete.

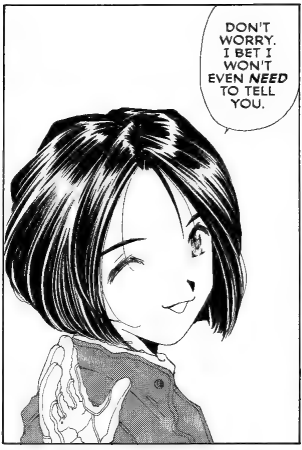
Leaves
dancing with the
morning sun.

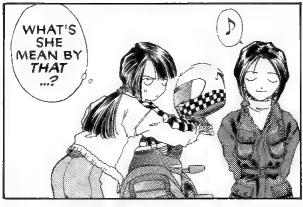
This heart of mine,
a wee bit
sentimental...
Something like
sentimental,
only
not quite the same.
—The Queen
"Ode to Morning"
On this day,
a day of secrets
revealed,
the morning
sun dispels
the shadows.
And yet
this heart
of mine,
still asphalt
gray...
YAMAHA
350


OH... YOU'RE OKAY?
CUT IT OUT.

...WHY I CAN'T WIN, RIGHT?
NOW-- YOU PROMISED YOU'D REVEAL TO ME...
SURE DID.
YUP!
SO...
CAN'T SHE EVER MAKE NORMAL FRIENDS?
HELLO!
HOW OLD DO YOU THINK THEY ARE, ANYWAY?
THEY'RE NOT MY PARENTS.
...WHY BRING YOUR PARENTS ...?

"TIME TO RACE" ...?
ANYWAY, TIME TO RACE.
DOES IT MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
C-CALM DOWN!
YOU AREN'T GOING TO *TELL* ME?!
...
..I'LL TELL--OKAY?
FIRST YOU RACE, THEN I *PROMISE*...
BUT IF YOU DON'T TELL ME AFTERWARDS--*OFF WITH YOUR HEAD!!*
I *AM* THE *QUEEN*, AFTER ALL!
ALL RIGHT! *ALL RIGHT!!* I JUST GOTTA *RACE*, RIGHT?!

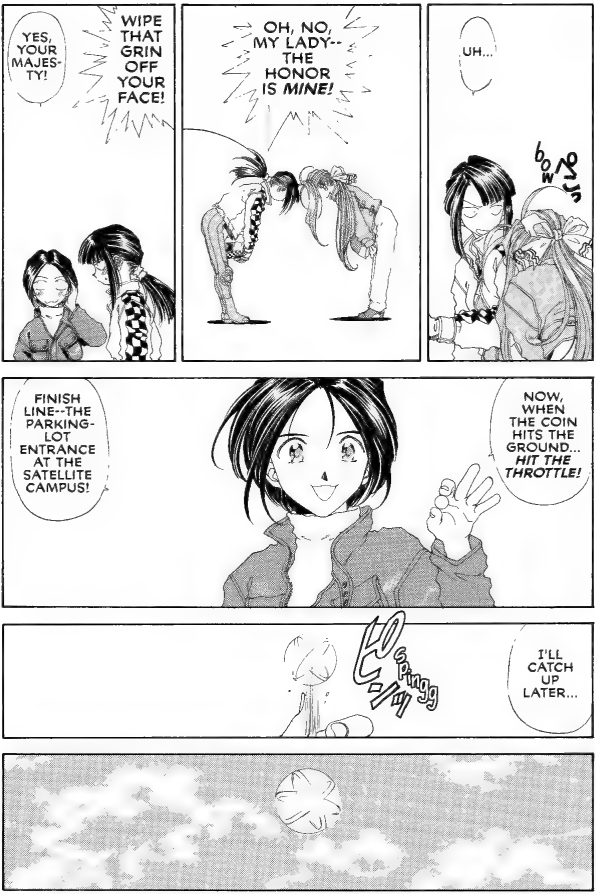

DON'T WORRY. I BET I WON'T EVEN *NEED* TO TELL YOU.


WHAT'S SHE MEAN BY *THAT* ...?
♪

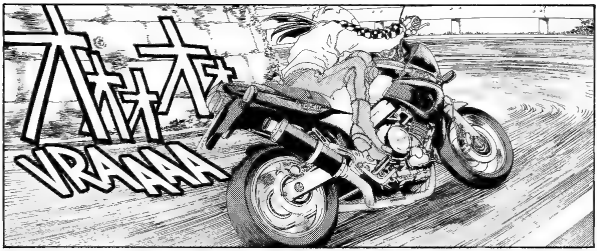
BRMBB

BRMBB
BRMBB

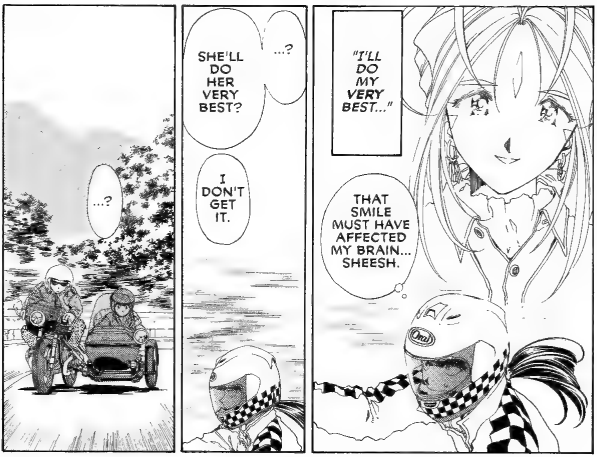
EX-CUSE ME ...?
FOR-GET IT!! WHAT A JOKE!
AW!
YUP!
YOU DON'T MEAN... AGAINST THAT ...?
YUP!
WITH TWO RIDERS?
A SIDE-CAR RIG?
I'M NOT REALLY USED TO RACING, BUT I'LL DO MY VERY BEST.
THANK YOU FOR GIVING US THIS CHANCE TODAY.


YES, YOUR MAJESTY!
WIPE THAT GRIN OFF YOUR FACE!
OH, NO, MY LADY-- THE HONOR IS *MINE!*
UH...
bow
FINISH LINE--THE PARKING-LOT ENTRANCE AT THE SATELLITE CAMPUS!
NOW, WHEN THE COIN HITS THE GROUND... *HIT THE THROTTLE!*
I'LL CATCH UP LATER...

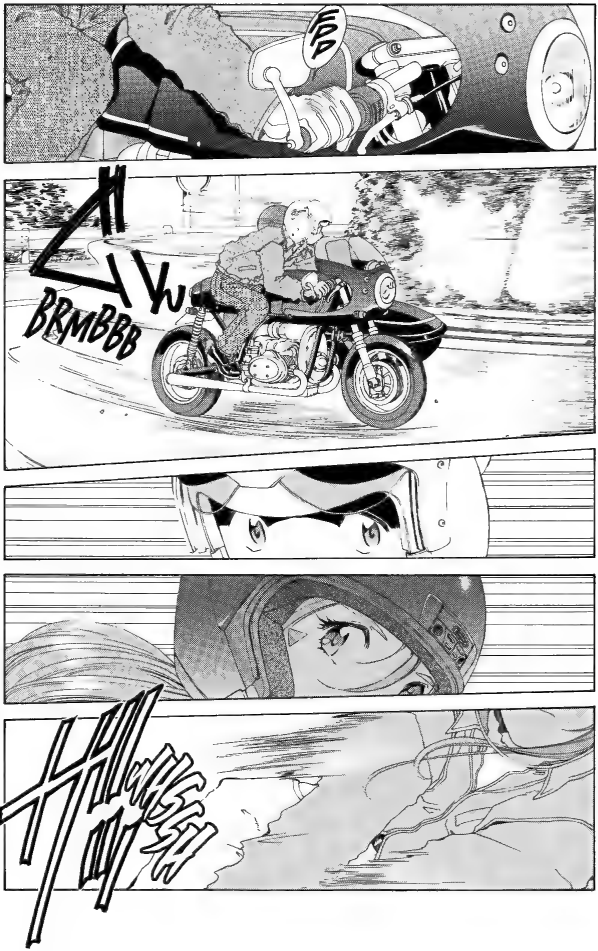
キン! K-ting!
VRMM
HAVE FUN!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU, KI!
VRAAAA
EH UH


VRAAAA

...AND AN INEXPERI-ENCED SIDEHACK MONKEY ...?
SEE? DIDN'T I TELL YOU? NOT A CHANCE!
A LUMBER-ING OLD BEEMER LIKE THAT...


...?
SHE'LL DO HER VERY BEST?
...?
I DON'T GET IT.
"I'LL DO MY VERY BEST..."
THAT SMILE MUST HAVE AFFECTED MY BRAIN... SHEESH.

READY?
OF COURSE!
AND HOW ABOUT YOU, OLD BUDDY ...?
BRMBBB
OH, NO!! DON'T! STOP!! YOU CAN'T HIT THIS CURVE THAT FAST IN A SIDECAR RIG!!

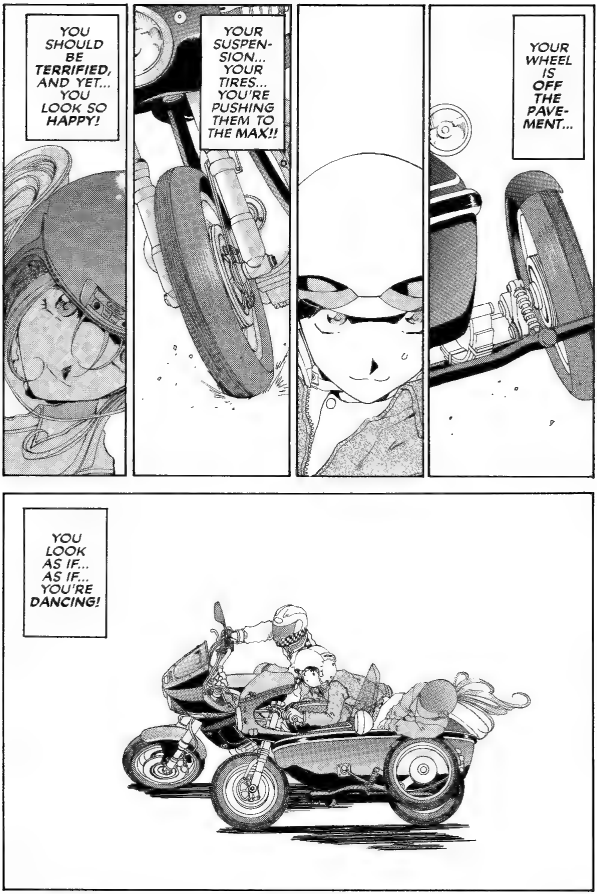

BRMBBB
HIGH SPEED

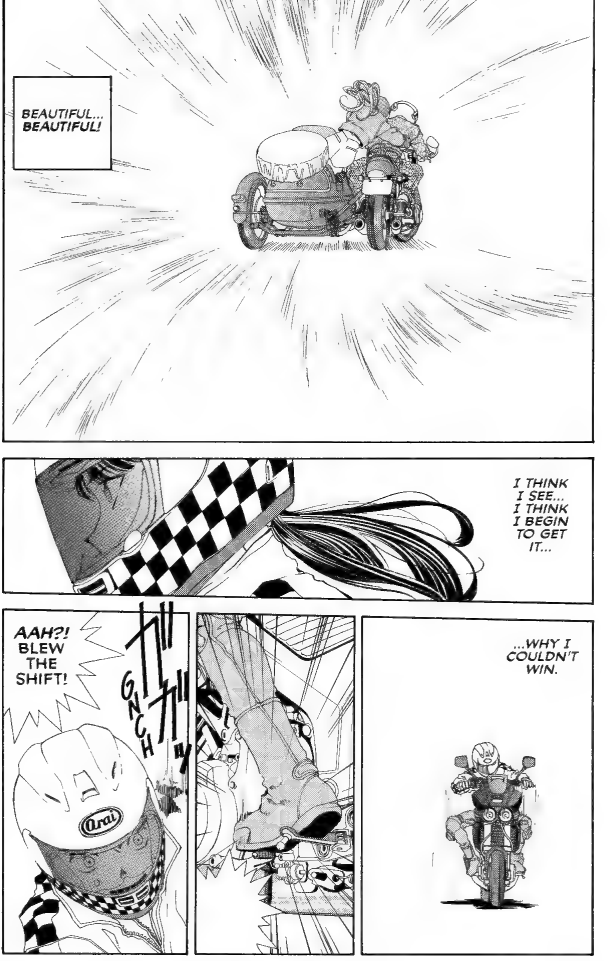
BRMBBB

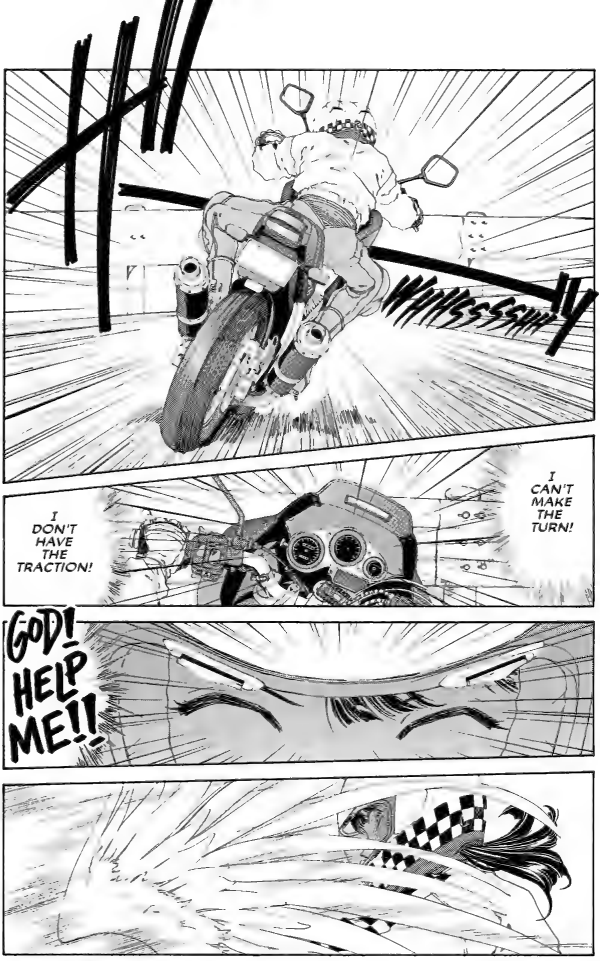
BRMBBB

ゴゴゴゴ
ダルルルFDD
FD
ドドドドドド

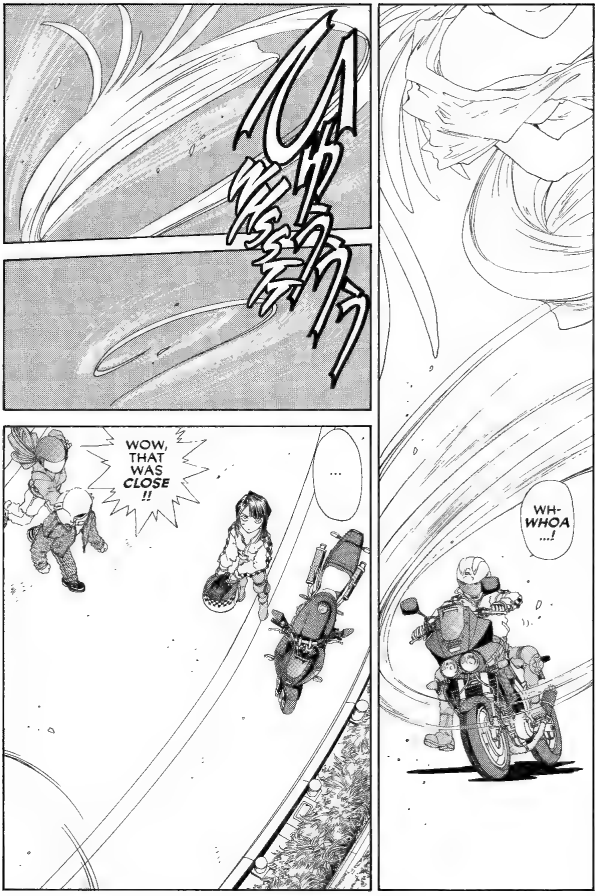
ヴォヴォヴォヴォ
BRMBBBB
HOW CAN THEY TAKE THEM SO FAST?!
HOW ...?!
WHEN YOU SAID YOU'D DO YOUR "VERY BEST"...
N-NO WAY !!


YOU SHOULD BE TERRIFIED, AND YET... YOU LOOK SO HAPPY!
YOUR SUSPEN-SION... YOUR TIRES... YOU'RE PUSHING THEM TO THE MAX!!
YOUR WHEEL IS OFF THE PAVE-MENT...
YOU LOOK AS IF... AS IF... YOU'RE DANCING!

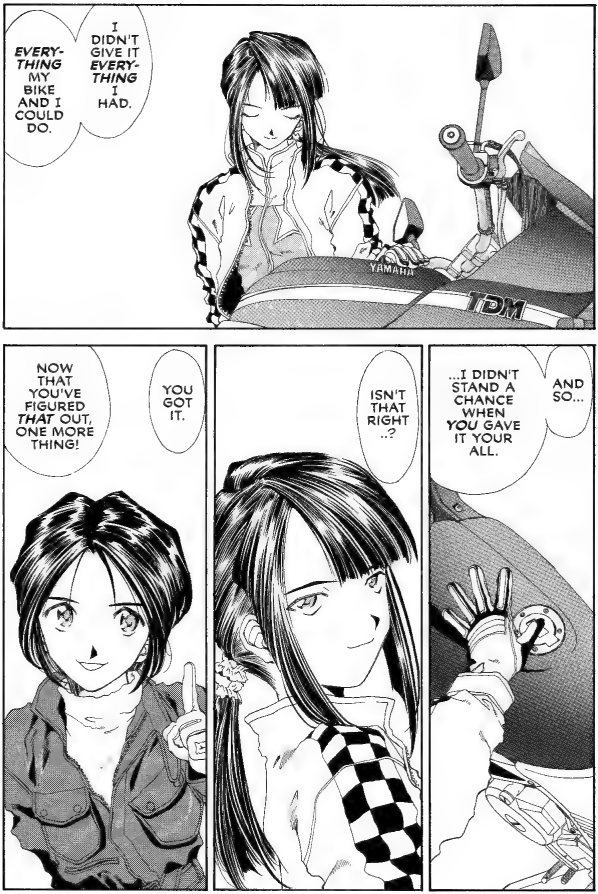

BEAUTIFUL...
BEAUTIFUL!
I THINK I SEE... I THINK I BEGIN TO GET IT...
AAH?! BLEW THE SHIFT!
GNCH
Oral
...WHY I COULDN'T WIN.


WHHSSSHH
I CAN'T MAKE THE TURN!
I DON'T HAVE THE TRACTION!
GOD! HELP ME!!

!?!
YAMAHA
Arai
ドドド

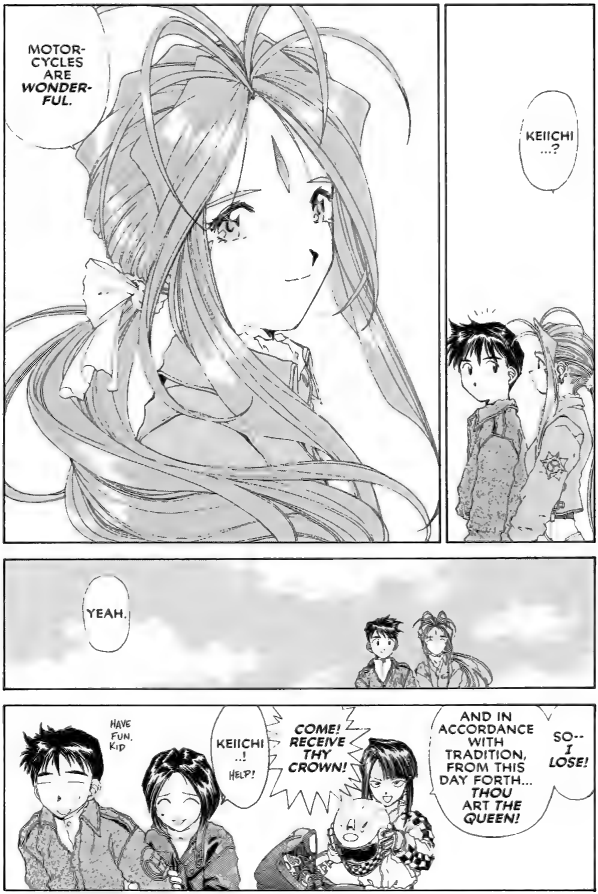

WH-
WHOA
...!
...
WOW,
THAT
WAS
CLOSE
!!

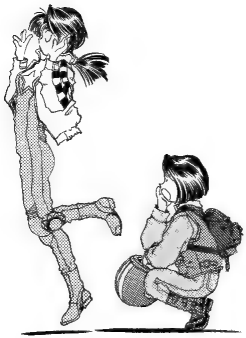
D-DID YOU SEE... JUST NOW...
HUH? HEY?!
UH... ER...
BRAPPBRAPP
YOU QUIT HALF-WAY?
I GIVE. GAME OVER.
YUP.
=phewww=
I'M SORRY, KEIICHI, BUT I JUST HAD TO USE HER!
NOW I KNOW WHY I COULDN'T WIN.


I DIDN'T GIVE IT *EVERY-THING* I HAD.
EVERY-THING MY BIKE AND I COULD DO.
YAMAHA
TDM
AND SO...
...I DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE WHEN *YOU* GAVE IT YOUR ALL.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT ..?
YOU GOT IT.
NOW THAT YOU'VE FIGURED *THAT* OUT, ONE MORE THING!

IF YOU TAKE CARE OF YOUR BIKE...
...YOUR BIKE WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU.
OH, DEAR-- YOUR BRAKE FLUID IS LOW, TOO!
?
CHECK THE TENSION ON YOUR CHAIN.
AH?! LOOSE ...!
twitch!
...IT'S EASY TO BLOW A SHIFT.
AND, FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU DON'T ADJUST YOUR CLUTCH REGULARLY...
AFTER THAT, IT'S ALL UP TO THE USER.
A BIKE IS JUST A TOOL...
...OF COURSE IT'S MORE THAN A TOOL, REALLY.
BUT...

I MEAN, IF IT WASN'T, THEN WE...
..YOU AND ME...
..WE WOULDN'T *LOVE* OUR BIKES SO MUCH.
...
YES.
SO ...?
...WILL YOU LET ME RIDE YOU AGAIN?
YAMAHA

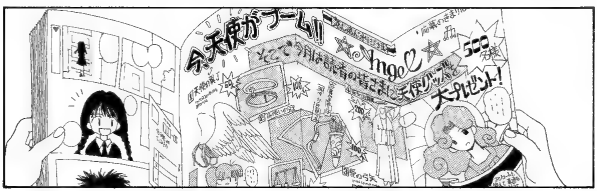

MOTOR-CYCLES ARE *WONDER-FUL.*
KEIICHI ...?
YEAH.
HAVE FUN, KID
KEIICHI ..! HELP!
COME! RECEIVE THY CROWN!
AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH TRADITION, FROM THIS DAY FORTH... *THOU* ART *THE QUEEN!*
SO-- *I LOSE!*



CHAPTER 89

Another Me

今，天使がブーム!!
ANGELS ARE HOT!



I MISS YOU.
NOBLE SCARLET...
I MISS YOU SO MUCH.
SO... PLEASE... PLEASE...
NEXT TIME, I WON'T MAKE YOU GO BACK TO YOUR EGG.
I MISS--

NOT SO FAST!
OWW!!
FWAP!
FORGET ABOUT IT, SKULD.
YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO CONTROL AN ANGEL YET.
OH YEAH? AND HOW LONG DID YOU HAVE TO WAIT TO CONTROL YOURS, URD...?
WE DON'T NEED TO GET INTO THAT...
HOW LONG?
NOT TELLING.
AHH, SISTERLY LOVE...

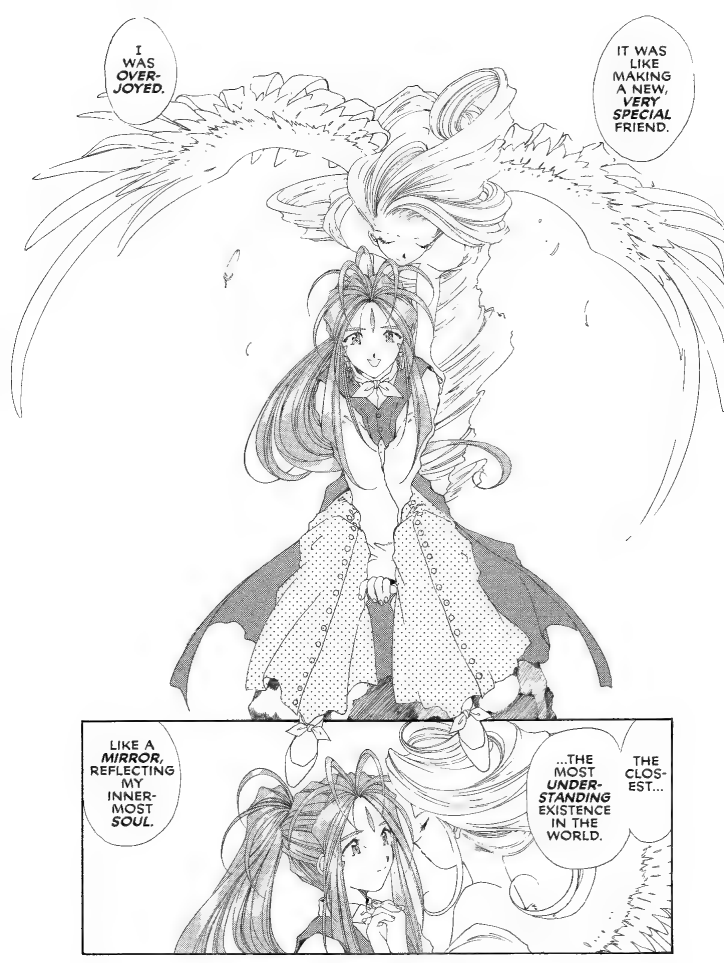
WOULDN'T YOU MISS *YOUR* ANGEL?!
I *MISS* MY NOBLE SCARLET!
YOU WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND.
WHAT? *WHAT* ?!
...

HMPH!! MISS SUPERIOR, JUST 'CAUSE YOU GOT ONE ALREADY...
BECAUSE... EVEN I DON'T UNDER-STAND.
HMM. WEIRD.
WAIT A SEC...
IF URD HAS AN ANGEL...
...WHAT WAS SHE DOING WITH THAT ANGEL EGG?

BELL-
DANDY
...?
GOT
A
MINUTE?
OF
COURSE.

UM... YOU KNOW...
...
YES ..?
?
...
AN-GELS...
YES?

--WHAT WAS IT LIKE FOR *YOU*?!
WHEN YOU GOT YOUR ANGEL--
WERE YOU... *AFRAID*?
I DON'T... WHAT DO YOU...
PAR-DON?
OH, *NO!*

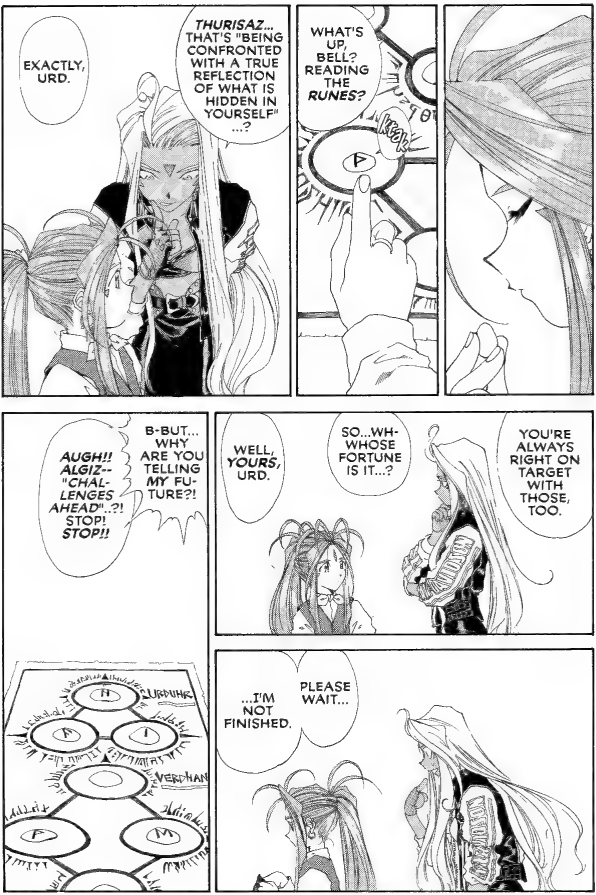

I WAS OVER-JOYED.
IT WAS LIKE MAKING A NEW, VERY SPECIAL FRIEND.
LIKE A MIRROR, REFLECTING MY INNER-MOST SOUL.
...THE MOST UNDER-STANDING EXISTENCE IN THE WORLD.
THE CLOS-EST...

THAT'S WHY, FOR ME, IT WAS SO...
...TERRI-FYING.
...LIKE A MIRROR.
...
URD ...?
...

LORD'S CASTLE
MY ANGEL...
...

COME FORTH, MY ANGEL!
FLASH!
AS IF *THAT* WOULD WORK...
YEAH, *RIGHT.*
URD DOESN'T HAVE AN ANGEL *EITHER!*
NOW I GET IT!!
HO HO HO!

HERE'S MY CHANCE FOR A LITTLE... REVENGE!
Oriental Tea Room
ガラッ
Clack
Clack


EXACTLY, URD.
THURISAZ... THAT'S "BEING CONFRONTED WITH A TRUE REFLECTION OF WHAT IS HIDDEN IN YOURSELF" ...?
WHAT'S UP, BELL? READING THE RUNES?
B-BUT... WHY ARE YOU TELLING MY FUTURE?!
AUGH!! ALGIZ-- "CHALLENGES AHEAD"..?! STOP! STOP!!
WELL, YOURS, URD.
SO...WHOSE FORTUNE IS IT...?
YOU'RE ALWAYS RIGHT ON TARGET WITH THOSE, TOO.
...I'M NOT FINISHED.
PLEASE WAIT...

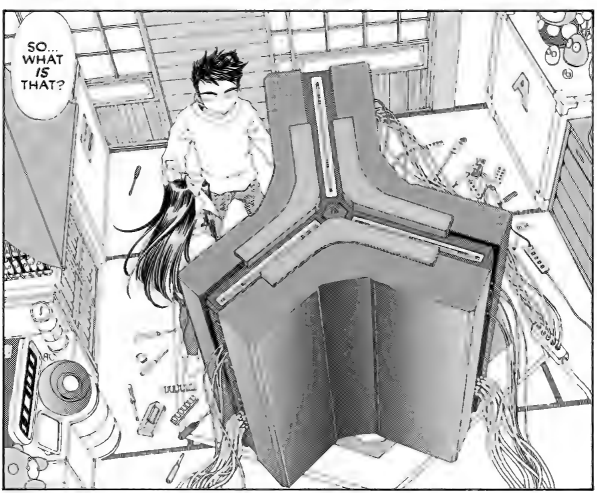
...YOU MISS YOUR ANGEL-- DON'T YOU?
BUT... MY DEAR SISTER...
ulp
TONIGHT'S THE SUPER-BIKE FINALS.
HEY, I ALMOST FORGOT!
whew... PEACE AT LAST.

?
klik
HUH?
klik
klik
klik
LET'S SEE..
DARN! IT FINALLY DIED ON ME...?
空っぽ
(EMPTY)

...IS, OF COURSE, A COMPLETELY *RHETORICAL* QUESTION!!
AND THAT...
SKULD LABS
WHO ON EARTH WOULD *DO* THIS?!
ARGH! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!
DON'T TELL ME-- HERE *TOO?!*
I'LL GET MY ANGEL *FIRST,* URD.
HEH HEH HEH

SO *THAT'S* WHY THE TV AND CASSETTE PLAYER ARE *EMPTY*.
I *SEE*.

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DISCUSS THE MEANING OF "ASKING PERMISSION"
SKULD...
AW, C'MON! I JUST *BORROWED* A COUPLE OF THINGS!
1
12


SO... WHAT *IS* THAT?

...THE SKULD POWER AMP α-707!
...I WAS INSPIRED BY THE MIND-FORCE AMPLIFIER MARA USED IN SAYOKO'S CASTLE...TO BUILD...
WELL...
...IT'LL BE A SNAP FOR ME TO CONTROL AN ANGEL!
AHH...I'M SUCH A GENIUS!
WITH THE HELP OF THIS BEAUTY...!
"klik" ...?
KLIK!
I CAN SNAG THE TV BOARD LATER...
I'LL JUST SLIP OUT BEFORE I GET DRAGGED INTO IT.
I GIVE UP... SHE'S IN HER OWN LITTLE WORLD AGAIN.

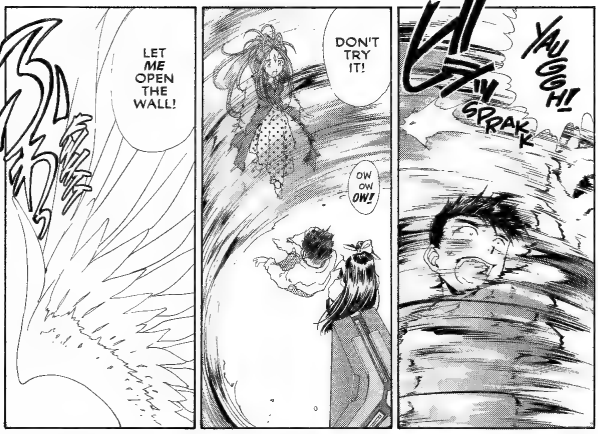
I'M TRYING! THE SWITCH DOESN'T WORK ANY-MORE!
T-TURN IT OFF! TURN IT OFF, QUICK !!
!!
AH?! OF COURSE-- THE CONTROL CIRCUIT ISN'T HOOKED UP YET!
OH ...?

YEE OW!
EEEK!
RMBBBB
WHAT TH--?!
AND THAT IS, OF COURSE...
...A COMPLETELY *RHETORICAL* QUESTION !!

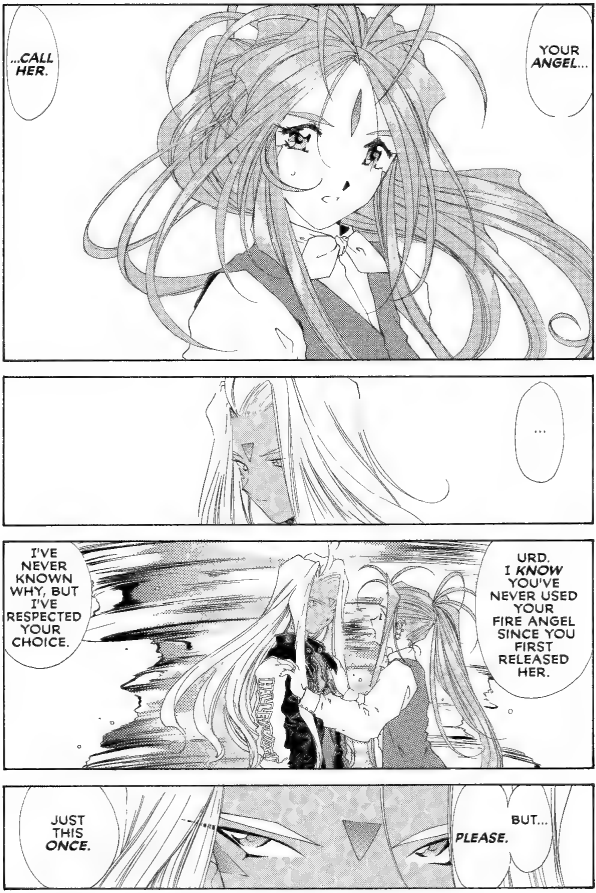
FWHOOOOOOSH

OH! THAT'S A HIGH-LEVEL WATER-ELEMENT SPELL!
B-BUT SKULD CAN'T...
"CHAL-LENGES AHEAD"... JUST LIKE IN THE RUNES. GREAT.

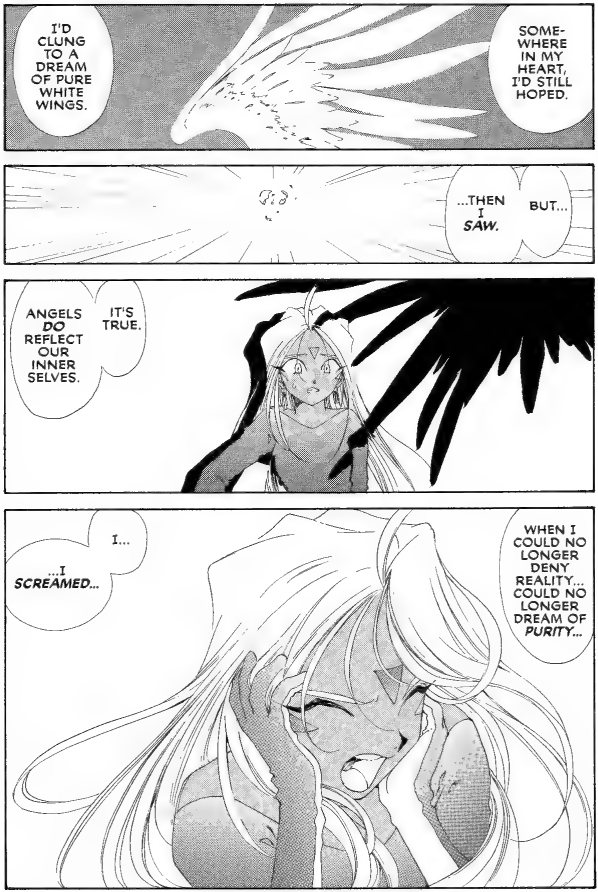
TRUE... BUT LOOK AT THAT AMP SHE BUILT!
...IT'S IN A FEED-BACK LOOP!
IT ISN'T JUST AMPLIFY-ING IT...
HUH?
NO, KEIICHI! DON'T !!
...BUST OUTTA HERE...
WELL, I'M JUST GON-NA...


LET ME OPEN THE WALL!
DON'T TRY IT!
OW OW OW!
YAUGGH!
SPRAK

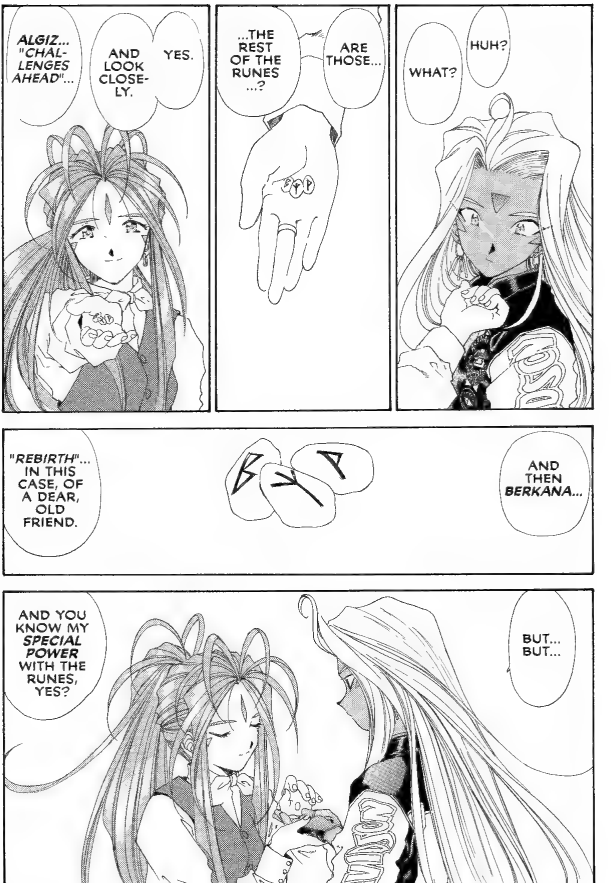
GASSH!
FWOOOSH
I...I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN-- MY *WIND ELEMENT* CAN'T TOUCH IT!
ONLY A *FIRE-ELEMENT* SPELL CAN BREAK THROUGH A *WATER-ELEMENT* SHIELD!
URD!

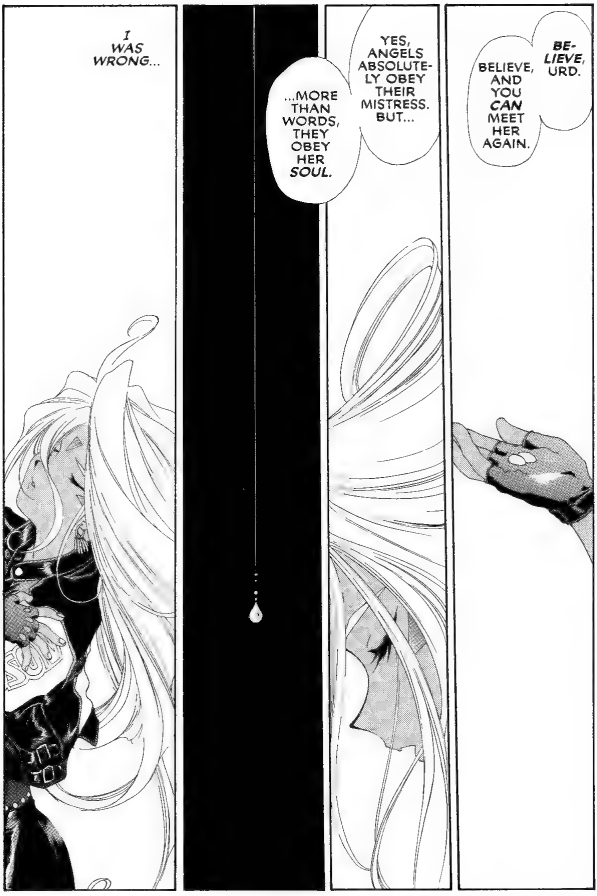

...CALL HER.
YOUR ANGEL...
...
I'VE NEVER KNOWN WHY, BUT I'VE RESPECTED YOUR CHOICE.
URD. I KNOW YOU'VE NEVER USED YOUR FIRE ANGEL SINCE YOU FIRST RELEASED HER.
JUST THIS ONCE.
BUT... PLEASE.

...IT'S THAT I CAN'T.
IT'S NOT THAT I WON'T...
HEH...
B-BUT... WHY NOT?!
NO.
SO WHEN I SWALLOWED MY ANGEL'S EGG, I WAS SCARED TO SEE...WHAT I WAS.
...WAS IT REALLY TRUE THAT I WAS HALF ANGEL, HALF DEMON ...?
EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE I'D WONDERED...


I'D CLUNG TO A DREAM OF PURE WHITE WINGS.
SOME-WHERE IN MY HEART, I'D STILL HOPED.
...THEN I *SAW.*
BUT...
ANGELS *DO* REFLECT OUR INNER SELVES.
IT'S TRUE.
I...
...I *SCREAMED...*
WHEN I COULD NO LONGER DENY REALITY... COULD NO LONGER DREAM OF *PURITY...*

"I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!"
YES...
...I SAID THAT TO MY ANGEL... AND SHE OBEYED.
!
I'M SORRY.
YOU'LL HAVE TO THINK OF SOME-THING ELSE.
clutch


ALGIZ... "CHALLENGES AHEAD"...
AND LOOK CLOSELY.
YES.
...THE REST OF THE RUNES ...?
ARE THOSE...
WHAT?
HUH?
"REBIRTH"... IN THIS CASE, OF A DEAR, OLD FRIEND.
AND THEN BERKANA...
AND YOU KNOW MY SPECIAL POWER WITH THE RUNES, YES?
BUT... BUT...

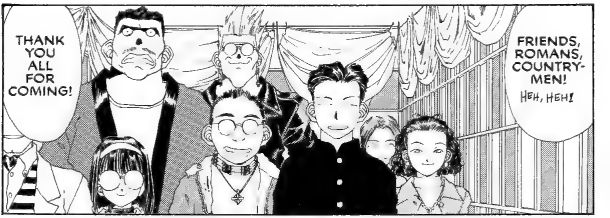

I WAS WRONG...
...MORE THAN WORDS, THEY OBEY HER SOUL.
YES, ANGELS ABSOLUTELY OBEY THEIR MISTRESS. BUT...
BELIEVE, AND YOU CAN MEET HER AGAIN.
BELIEVE, URD.

EVEN THAT ANGEL EGG... I ONLY GOT IT... SO I COULD TRY AGAIN.
AND NOW, ALL I WANT, HEART AND SOUL...
...IS TO MEET YOU ONCE MORE!
PLEASE ANSWER MY PRAYER...

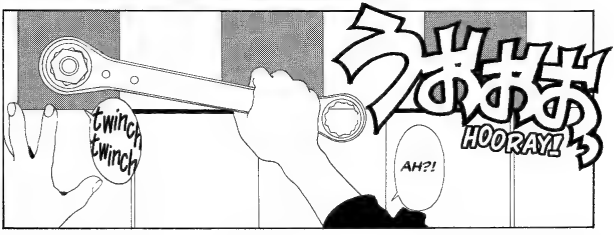
...WORLD OF ELEGANCE !!

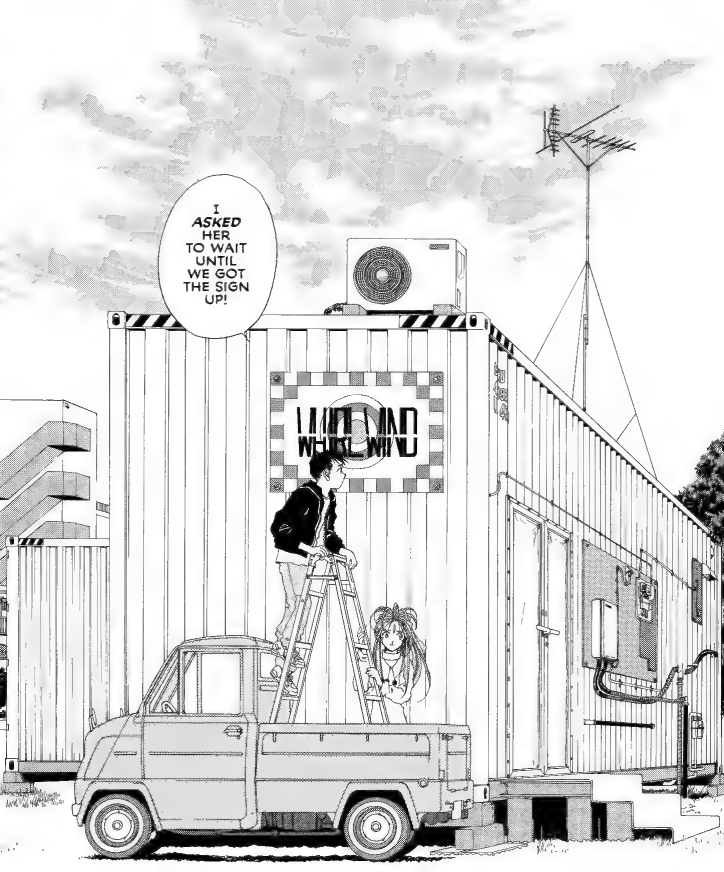
MIRROR OF MY SOUL...
FINALLY.. I CAN FACE YOU...
AND NOW... Consume by Fire!
MY OTHER ME...
WE ARE TOGETHER AGAIN, FOREVER...

I HOPE YOU AND NOBLE SCARLET...
...GET TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN SOON.
DEAR SKULD...
...BEFORE A SOUL LIKE YOURS BREAKS THROUGH.
IT CAN'T BE THAT LONG...
FWHOOSH
AND SO... I BETTER RUB IT IN WHILE I CAN!
CHECK IT OUT, SKULD!
TEE HEE!
HMPH! AS IF I CARE!
...


THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING!
FRIENDS, ROMANS, COUNTRY-MEN!
HEH, HEH!

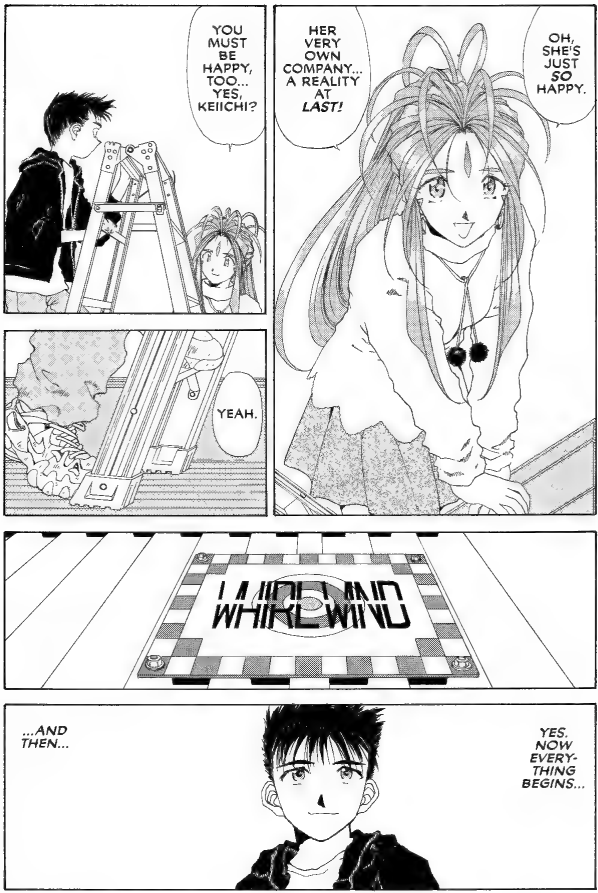
...CHIHIRO FUJIMI'S CUSTOM-MOTORCYCLE SHOP, "WHIRLWIND" ...!
AND NOW-- WELCOME TO THE OPENING PARTY FOR...


twinch twinch
AH?!
うおおおお
HOORAY!



CHAPTER 90

Never Let Go

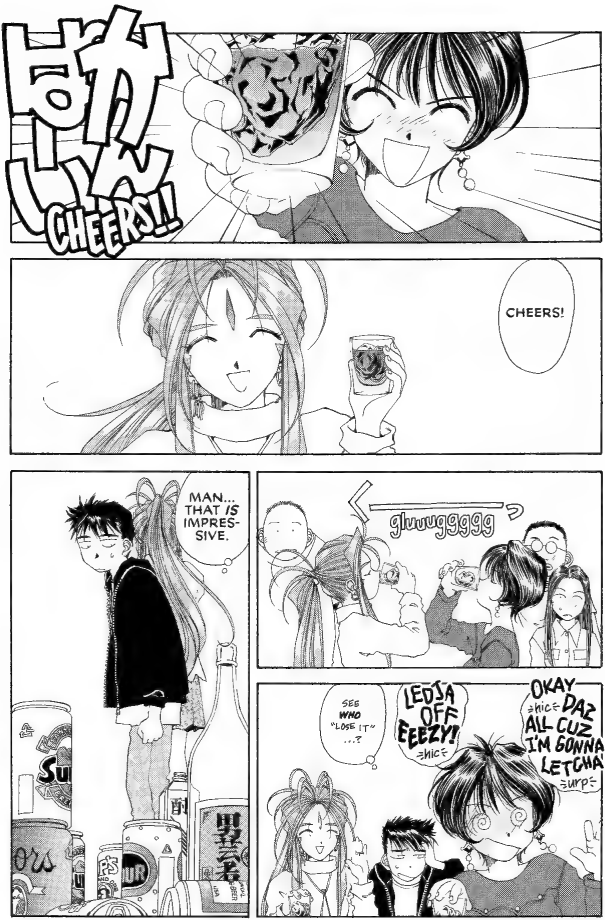

YOU MUST BE HAPPY, TOO... YES, KEIICHI?
HER VERY OWN COMPANY... A REALITY AT *LAST!*
OH, SHE'S JUST *SO* HAPPY.
YEAH.
WHIRLWIND
...AND THEN...
YES. NOW EVERY-THING BEGINS...

...EVERY-
THING
CHANGES.
STEP
BY
STEP...
uWAH!
LATE FOR
WORK
ALREADY,
EH,
MORISATO
?!
HIC
Pull
Push

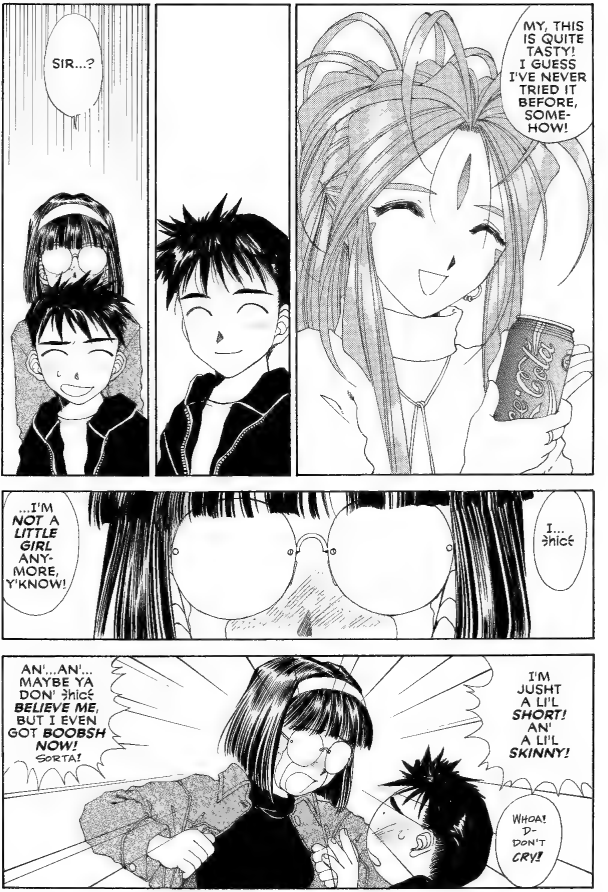
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN...
BLRRK
DRINK DRINK DRINK!
C'MON, BELL! ❤ YOU GOTTA SING US SOME-THING!
OH?
S-SING ...?
HERE! THE MIKE!
B... BUT...

TOO PERFECT.
HUH?
SHE'S PERFECT.
thump
NOT TO MENTION FAITHFUL, SWEET, GENTLE, AND KIND... sigh
BEAUTIFUL VOICE. GORGEOUS FACE.
EXQUISITE BODY.
UH... YEAH ...?
I HAVE A BAD FEELING...
...
HEY.
わっ
WOW!
ぺこり
bow

...
YOU'RE DRUNK.
--LOSE IT?
HEE, HEE... DON'TCHA WANNA SEE HER--
BELL, SWEETIE! COME HERE!
WAUGH! DON'T DO IT!!
YES, MASTER!
TAMIYA! OTAKI !!
ぴろん
AND SO... ONE MORE TIME!
MUCH LATER...


かんぱい!!
CHEERS!!
CHEERS!
MAN... THAT IS IMPRESSIVE.
gluuuggggg
SEE WHO "LOSE IT" ...?
LEDJA OFF EEEZY!
OKAY DAZ ALL CUZ I'M GONNA LETCHA
hic
hic
hic
burp

藤見千尋
ワールウイン
開店記念
藤見千尋
HERE. I COULDN'T FIND ANY TEA.
I FOR-GOT-- YOU DON'T GET DRUNK. SORRY.
OH, RIGHT.
THANK YOU, BUT...
ALCOHOL JUST DOESN'T HAVE ANY EFFECT ON ME, FOR SOME REASON.
THAT'S OKAY, KEIICHI.
PERFECT... IS SHE REALLY?


SIR...?
MY, THIS IS QUITE TASTY! I GUESS I'VE NEVER TRIED IT BEFORE, SOME-HOW!
...I'M NOT A LITTLE GIRL ANY-MORE, Y'KNOW!
I... ɜhicɛ
AN'...AN'... MAYBE YA DON' ɜhicɛ BELIEVE ME, BUT I EVEN GOT BOOBSH NOW! SORTA!
I'M JUSHT A LI'L SHORT! AN' A LI'L SKINNY!
WHOA! D-DON'T CRY!

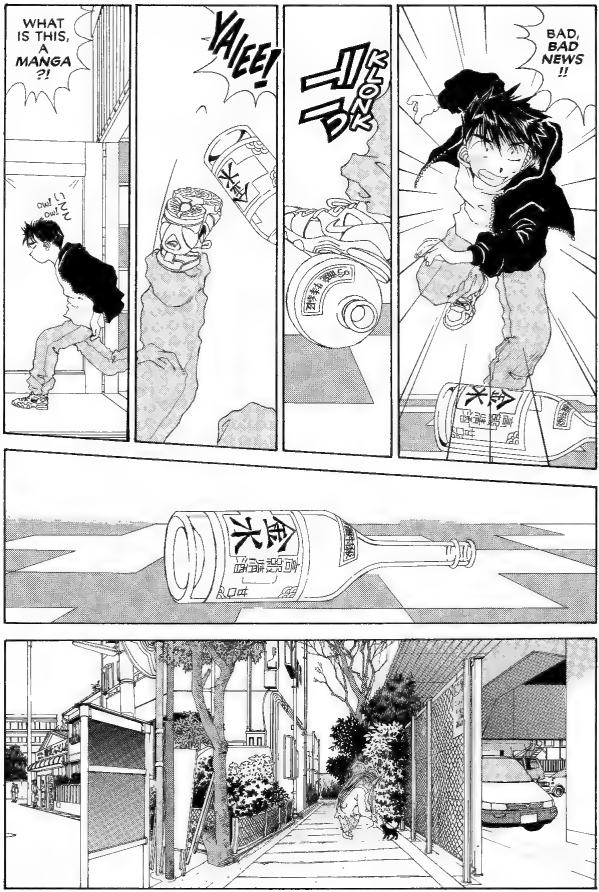
...
OKAY. ?HICC Y'R SHKEPTI-CAL.
IN THAT CASHHE, I'LL SHOW 'EM TO YA.
WHA-WHA-?! IN WHAT CASE?! S-STOP!
?!
KANK
OVER HERE, PLEASHE
OH... YOU POOR THING ...!

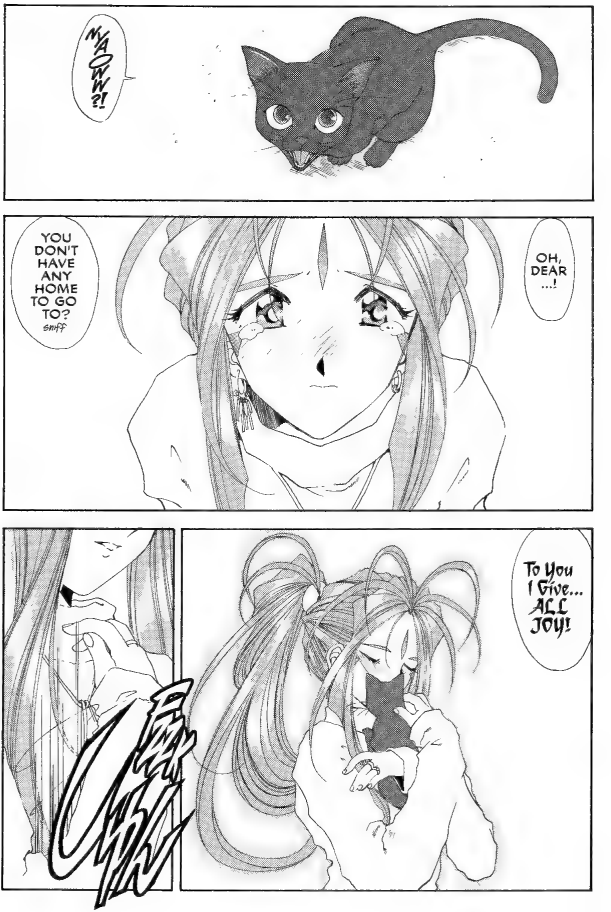
BELL... DRUNK?
BUT WHY NOW ...?
MA'AM! YOU UNDERSHTAND ME, R-RIGHT?!
コロ... roll
NO WAY ...!
ON COLA?!
ふぅ sigh
To You I Give...
ALL JOY!

boomf!
fsssshhh

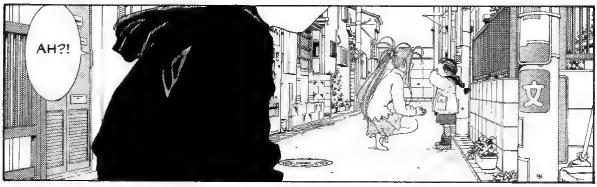
AUGH! WE'RE BUSTED!
...
...ISH TOO BIG.
MM...
THAT'S THE BESHT PARTY TRICK I EVER SAW!
WAY TUH GO, HASEGAWA!

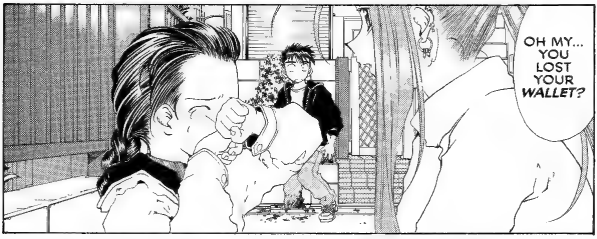
HUH ...?!
BELL-DANDY! YOU'VE GOTTA TURN HER BA--
!!
OH, NO.. SHE'S LOOSE OUT THERE? DRUNK?
MEANING...
...


WHAT IS THIS, A MANGA?!
Ouch! うっ Ouch!
YAIEE!
ドカ
ドカ
BAD, BAD NEWS !!
金木
金木
金木


MYAOW?!
OH, DEAR ...!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY HOME TO GO TO?
SNIFF
To You I Give... ALL JOY!
Oh, My!

HM ...?
...WHAT'S GOING ON?
KOLUUU
ガン!
AUGH!
YECCH! WHAT IS GOING ON?


AH?!
女


OH MY... YOU LOST YOUR WALLET?

OH, YOU POOR THING ...!

ALL JOY!
To You I Give...

OOG!
KONK
GLRP?
FLRP
NO, BELL! ST--
EEK!!
ボボボ
boomf!

HEY LADY... NICE LADY...
?
B-BUT LADY...
...ONLY ONE OF THESE IS MINE!
28
WELL, THAT EXPLAINS ONE THING, ANYWAY--
NO, I THINK WE'RE FINE NOW. I'M HANGING ONTO HER, THOUGH...
YEAH... SHE'S, LIKE... SPREADING HAPPINESS, URD.
WEIRD HAPPINESS...
OH, THAT POOR LOST BICYCLE...!
OH, THAT POOR BROKEN STREETLIGHT!

--THIS CAT.
SO COLA MAKES GODDESSES DRUNK?
WELL...
...AS FOR ME, IF IT AIN'T SAKE, IT AIN'T GONNA DO A THING!
BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE FOR BELL, ONE CAN OF COLA AND SHE'S PLASTERED!
BWA HAW HAW!
...
GREAT. YOU'RE DRUNK, TOO.
RELAX, KID. NO HARM DONE.
ONLY... THE LAW OF THE CONSERVATION OF HAPPINESS MEANS THAT...
...FOR EACH ACT OF HAPPINESS BELLDANDY CAUSES...

SHE, UH... TURNED INTO A DOG.
...
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN TO BELL?!
"NO HARM DONE," HUH?
...THERE'LL BE EQUAL AND OPPOSITE UNHAPPI-NESS FOR YOU.
THE OLD SYSTEM FORCE AT WORK!
ACK!!
SO THAT EXPLAINS IT!! WHY I'VE BEEN SO--
REBOOT, REBOOT!
OH, MAN-- MY OLD MAC CRASHED AGAIN?!
SIGHH... I'M STARV-ING. I WANNA EAT NOW!

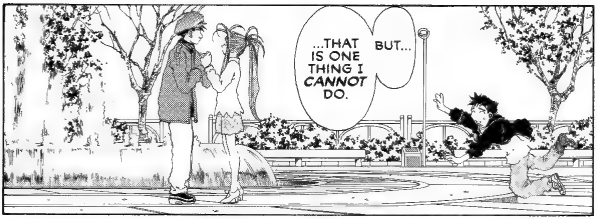
AHH, I HEAR THEM ALL!
THE LAMENTS OF UNHAPPY PEOPLE!
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING!
To All of You I Give... ALL JOY!
HFF
HAAH

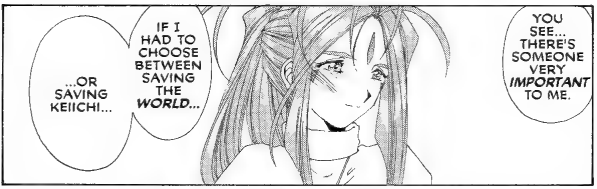
?
I'M SO HAPPY!!
OH, THIS IS JUST WHAT I WANTED TO EAT!
WOW! MY QUADRA'S RUNNING AS FAST AS A G4!!
DAISY, DAISY..
WHAT KIND OF WISHES IS SHE GRANTING, ANY-WAY?!
AHH?!
SNAP
...I CAN'T GO WRONG!
MY VCR IS SET!
OH WELL, IF I FOLLOW THEM...
MY DENTURES CAME BACK FROM THE TOILET!

...QUESTION IS, WILL I SURVIVE LONG ENOUGH ...?
SKRUSH
HUH?
WHAT MAKES ME SAD?
YES!

WELL... FACT IS, LAST YEAR, I LOST* MY GIRLFRIEND.
*WAS DUMPED BY
OH, NO!
WELL-- A BABE IS A BABE!
AH, THE SIGHT OF YOU STIRS SUCH... MEMORIES!
AND YOU... LOOK JUST LIKE HER!

...IT MIGHT *HEAL* THIS SHATTERED HEART...
...YOU WOULD BE MY *LOVER*...
IF ONLY FOR TO-NIGHT...
NOOO!
OH, YOU *POOR* BOY!
HEY!


...THAT IS ONE THING I *CANNOT* DO.
BUT...

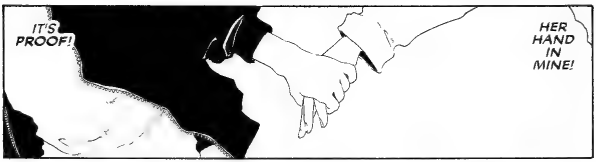

...OR SAVING KEIICHI...
IF I HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN SAVING THE *WORLD*...
YOU SEE... THERE'S SOMEONE VERY *IMPORTANT* TO ME.

...I'D SAVE *KEIICHI*.

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT MAKE HIM UNHAPPY...
...NOT EVEN TO BRING YOU JOY.
GUESS I CAN'T SCOLD HER NOW.
I'M SORRY...
TOO LATE TO CHANGE YOUR MIND NOW, BABE!
ぐっ ぎゅ
YOU AND ME ARE GONNA--
WHO ARE YOU?
LESSEE... ONE HAPPINESS THERE, AND AN UNHAPPINESS BACK THERE...
THEN, ANOTHER HAPPINESS, AND...
THOUGHT SO. ONE LEFT!

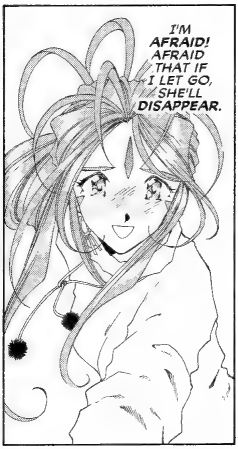
AW, CRAP! MY BEST OUTFIT!!
SHHHH
TIME TO GO!
HEY, YOU!
PERFECT? WHAT'S PERFECT ?!
HBLOOSH!!
Hhhhh?

IF IT WAS, WHY ARE WE RUNNING?
NOTHING'S EVER PERFECT!


IT'S PROOF!
HER HAND IN MINE!

AND SOMEDAY, EVEN THESE HANDS...

BECAUSE NOT EVERY DREAM...
...ALWAYS COMES TRUE.


I'M AFRAID! AFRAID THAT IF I LET GO, SHE'LL DISAPPEAR.

HEH... I'D *LIKE* TO SAY "NO."
...!
KEIICHI? ARE *YOU* UNHAPPY? ABOUT *ANY-THING?*
THERE-- WE'RE SAFE NOW.
HFF
HFF
...*THAT'D* BE THE GREATEST UNHAPPINESS I COULD IMAGINE.
...IF I *EVER* HAVE TO LET GO OF THIS HAND...
BUT YOU KNOW...

To You I Give...
All...
ALL... JOY...
...※
OKAY ...?
WELL, IT MAKES SENSE-- SHE WAS USING HER POWER LIKE CRAZY!
WHOA... HEY!!

WHAT TH--?!
EH?
HUH ...?
YOU CAN'T LET GO?
AHH, NO PROBLEM. IF SHE DIDN'T PROGRAM IT...
...IT'LL WEAR OFF BY MORN-ING.
GUESS THAT'S... OKAY.
IS NOT!
SEE, HASE-GAWA? YOU'LL BE SMALL AGAIN TOMOR-ROW.
THICK TOO BIG...
TACKSH!

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OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 15
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Dear Enchantress,

I have at last got round to putting pen to paper! I like *OMG!* (who could not?), but Mr. Sheean's letter (vol. 25) was especially interesting.

There are not many illustrators who can draw naturalistically and mechanically. Kosuke Fujishima does both well. Keima's Matchless does seem to have a less well-rounded crankcase than the ones I remember while hanging around the local motorbike shop (thanks for not chucking me out, Lou!) but that could be memory. Imagine my surprise when I picked up a magazine in the doctor's waiting room (*Classic Bike*, Oct. 2003) to find an article on the G50SR of 1962. These *were* racers made street legal, and all twenty-five produced were for the American market.

Like Albert Sheean, I have no problem with flip/nonflip, but I do not care for the new size. The popular paper size in Europe when I completed my City & Guilds (Printing) in the late '60s was A4. I was at Gateshead Press in 1980 when telephone directories finally changed from Demy 4 to A4. At work I used to see abstract summaries for technical journals in English, French, German, Russian, and sometimes Italian, Dutch, and Greek. It is noticeable how English needs less space than other languages, proved by a German *OMG!* I have (vol. 21—flipped!) where the speech bubbles seem to break up these small pages. With A4 the same *proportions* as the current "unflipped" books, printing them in A4 would give the necessary space for foreign languages *and* show Fujishima's artwork to advantage when you export the benefits of *OMG!* worldwide!

Finally, your "available at your local bookstore"—if only. I have just picked up vol. 34 from my local source (Abstract Sprocket, Norwich). They put in my order, then have to sit back, cross their fingers, and wait on the distributors. Is there any way to speed things up?

Yours sincerely,
Brian Coussell
England

Of all the manga I've worked on as editor, I think that *Oh My Goddess!* receives letters from the widest variety of individuals—people from all backgrounds of life. This diverse readership can't be unrelated to the fact *OMG!* has remained the longest-running manga series in the English language.

We're honored to hear from a fan who is a printer, especially an English printer. When I visited London last year after a long absence, I went for the first time to Westminster Abbey, which made a tremendous impression on me, owing to the hundreds upon hundreds of famous figures whose tombs crowd the interior—Toren Smith (whose Studio Proteus is responsible for having brought *Oh My Goddess!* to the English-speaking world in the first place) remarked that the Abbey is a place where

you realize that history is something that actually happened, and wasn't just made up for a book.

But even history has a restroom, and when you stand in line at the Abbey's (just past the door going east out of Poets' Corner), you'll see a plaque while you wait telling you that near this spot William Caxton ran his printing press in the late fifteenth century—the very first in the English language. Many of his books were translations from other languages, so I like to think *Oh My Goddess!* is a spiritual descendant of his work—only he would have probably called it something like *Recuyell of the Historyes of Belldandy* (Annie Gullion is Dark Horse's modern-day Margaret of York, correcting my broad and rude California dialect. ^_^)

For readers outside the United Kingdom, "City & Guilds" is a national program (or should I say, *programme* ^_^) of examination and certification for various professional fields in the UK that dates back to the Victorian era. The early '90s magazine *Anime UK*, edited by Helen McCarthy (whose most recent book is the spectacular *The Art of Osamu Tezuka*), was, not surprisingly for a publication printed in England, on A4-size paper. In American terms, A4 is like an 8½ x 11 inch sheet of paper, only a little taller and just slightly narrower. It gives an elegant impression, and a story I've told several times is how I literally bought a copy of *Anime UK* out of the hands of a visiting British fan at Anime Expo '92 as he was passing by the restaurant at breakfast.

As longtime readers of *Oh My Goddess!* will know, the manga was published in English in the format of an American comic book (6⅝ x 10⅛ inches, which is equivalent to 168 x 258 mm). This is a little-used paper size for anything but American comic books anymore (one of the reasons comics are expensive is the use, out of tradition, of this now-uncommon paper), but ironically it was much closer to the size at which *OMG!* is first published in Japan; that is, in its home, *Afternoon* magazine, which is printed on B5 paper at 176 x 250 mm size.

I should say that if you had just been able to purchase vol. 34 in England when you sent your letter in the third week of February, that isn't *too* far behind the United States, where it appeared in bookstores at the end of January. And hopefully my excuse doesn't sound *too* lame, either, but rather, moderately lame. ^_^

I understand that a few years ago, Titan Books was publishing the early volumes of the Dark Horse unflipped edition of *Oh My Goddess!* in the United Kingdom, which would have perhaps made the wait time a little shorter, but I don't think they're currently handling the title. While it lasted, I did thrill to the notion *Oh My Goddess!* was being published by the same people who put out the graphic novels for *Judge Dredd*. While I can easily see Urd as a Judge, somehow I think that wouldn't be the proper career for Belldandy . . .

—CGH

Creator Kosuke Fujishima in 1997!

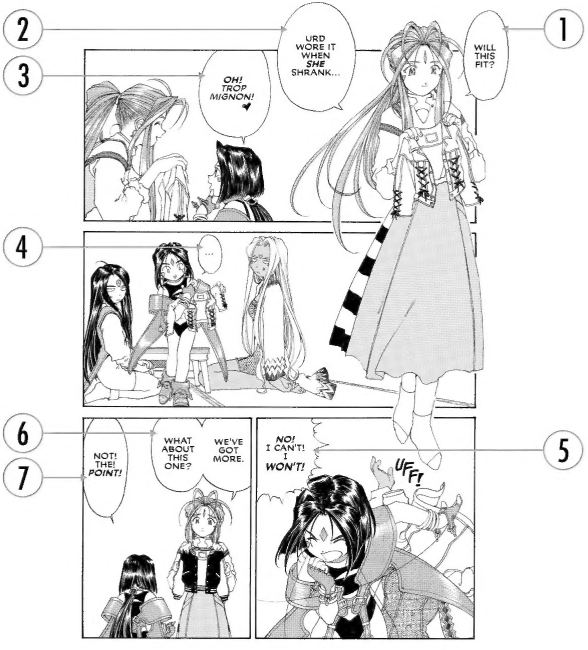
His message to fans in the original Japanese *Oh My Goddess!* Vol. 15:

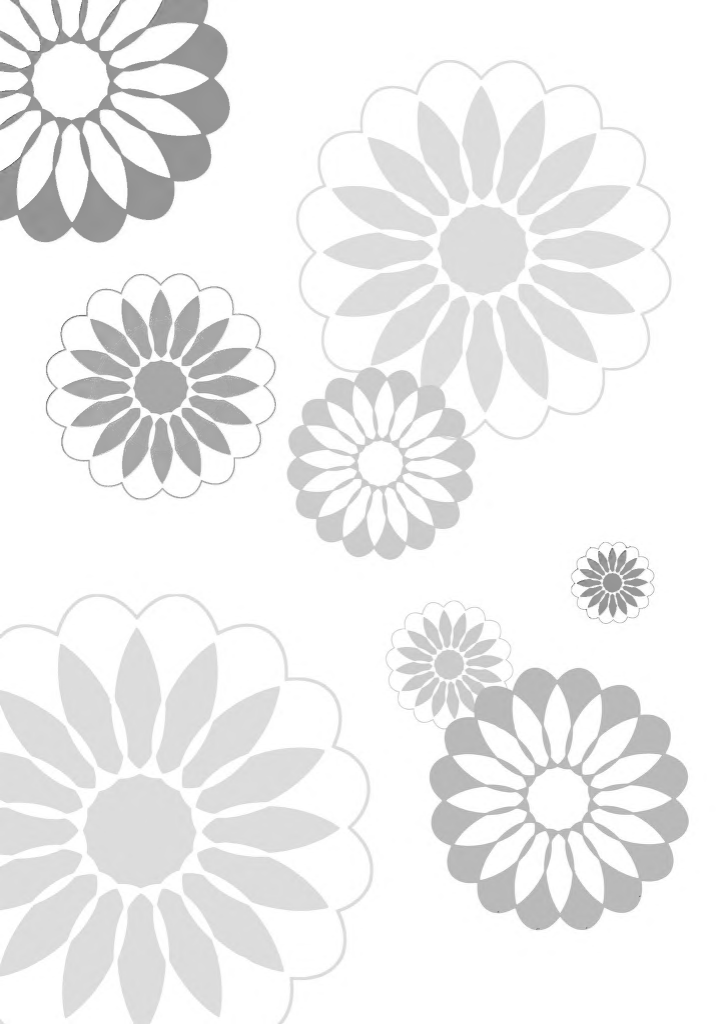
Check it—my stock of supermachines. Up till now, I've been showing you, like, pandas and hippos and other sorts of baka *machines, but this—this right here—is the real me.*

I know the gravel on this road here might look alarmingly and fakely big, but please don't pay any attention to that. Also, please just ignore the fact that the doors on this Honda S800 appear to have no physical way of being opened. And my seemingly unnatural appearance in this car? You might as well ignore that one too.

STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^





Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

15

THE BATTLE TO CONTROL the minds of every student at Nekomi Tech comes to its showdown, as the power behind Queen Sayoko's throne is revealed at last! Then it's back to good old-fashioned campus rivalries, as Megumi squares off against a different kind of royalty . . . the one who rules the road on the Inokuradai Pass! Plus a message from creator Kosuke Fujishima, and your fan art and letters!

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